

## **Chapter 9: Language**

### **Major Properties of Human Language**

creative (novel)  
structured (patterned)  
meaningful  
referential  
interpersonal (communicative)  
descriptive rules  
prescriptive rules  
structural principles  
reference

### **The Basic Units of Language**

phonemes  
parse  
morphemes  
content morphemes  
function morphemes  
phrase  
ambiguous  
semantics  
reference  
reference theory of meaning  
category  
definitional theory of meaning  
bundles of semantic features  
theory of prototypes  
family resemblance structure  
prototype  
subject  
predicate  
propositions  
syntax  
phrase structure description  
surface structure  
underlying structure  
attitude  
paraphrases  
ambiguous

### **Comprehension**

sentence analyzing machinery (SAM)  
embedded sentences  
function words  
extralinguistic factors  
maxims

### **Growth of Language in the Child**

correction (reinforcement)  
motherese  
overregularization errors  
causative verbs  
universal structure  
parameters

### **Language Learning in Changed Environments**

American Sign Language (ASL)

### **Language Learning with Changed Endowments**

specific language impairment

critical period hypothesis

### **Language and Thought**