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أستاذ المادة : م. هناء عباس سليمان

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اسم المحاضرة الرابعة باللغة العربية: التواصل لدى البشر والحيوانات

اسم المحاضرة الرابعة باللغة الإنكليزية : Animals and Human Communication

## **Properties of Human Language:**

**1.Displacement**

**2.Arbitrariness**

**3.Productivity**

**4.Cultural transmission**

**5.Duality**

### **1.Displacement**

-It allows language users to talk about things and events not present in the immediate environments.

-Indeed, displacement allows us to talk about things and places whose existence we cannot be sure of.

### **2.Arbitrariness**

-There is no natural connection between a linguistic form and its meaning. This connection is arbitrary.

-Some words in English seem to be less arbitrary such as crash and slurp.

### **3.Productivity**

- It is also called creativity and open- endedness.
- It means that the potential number of utterances in any human language is infinite; unlike the communication system of other creatures.
- Animal communication lacks productivity which can be described as ' fixed reference'.

### **4.Cultural transmission**

- Language is acquired through a culture with other speakers not from parental genes.
- Humans are born with some predisposition (ability) to acquire language in a general sense; but not born with the ability to produce utterances in specific language such as English but rather to acquire the first language as children in a culture.
- Non- humans are born with a set of specific signals that are produced instinctively.

### **5.Duality**

-It is also called 'double articulation' . A property of language that human language is organized at two levels or layers. We have a physical level at which we can produce individual sounds, like n, b and i. As individual sounds, none of these discrete forms has any intrinsic meaning .

-We are capable of producing a very large number of sound combinations such as words which are distinct in meaning.