Assignment No. 2

Due: Tuesday 10 February 2015

There is no word limit/requirement for these exercises. Your responses may be in English, French, Spanish, German, Arabic, or any other language you are comfortable writing in. The grammar, spelling, and prescriptive conventions are not evaluated for the assignment. You do not need to edit, revise a number of times, or attend in any special way to form or language. You should just write in a way that is clear to you.

1   Reading

Read the first two chapters of Gregory, Howard (2000). *Semantics.*

2   Group Project

Find one semantics or pragmatics experimental paper and bring it with you to class. Answer the following questions:

1. What language exactly are they studying?

2. What is their research question?

3. What did they do for their experiment? Outline the experimental design.

3   Language

Reflecting on all of the ways that language is operationalized in this class. Address whether something is missing from this definition, and whether you agree or disagree with parts of the definition. If you agree with this view of language, be sure to state why, and if you disagree, state your reasons and how you might change/improve this operational definition. Be sure to address all five (5) of the subdefinitions.

4   Social Meaning

With social meaning a language user picks one of a number of related senses that have the same referent. In picking one sense over another, the user is signaling group membership. List five (5) groups and two (2) examples per group that signals group membership.

5   Sense and Reference

Explain the concepts *sense* and *reference* using at least two examples to a non-linguist. You will have to avoid the use of technical vocabulary and try to make it relevant and concrete. You will need to motivate why this distinction is important. Write at least 5 sentences

For each of the relationships between sense and reference listed below, give three examples:

1. Different sense, same reference

2. Same sense, different reference

3. A sense with only sort of a reference

4. A sense without a reference

5. Multiple senses but still no reference