

**EXPLORING BOUNDARIES: A PYSCHOLINGUISTICS COMPARISON BETWEEN
HUMAN LANGUAGE AND NON-HUMAN COMMUNICATION**

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Abstract

Language is the most effective and important communication tool in social life. Language has a high value in human life in everyday communication. However, as living creatures, humans and animals have a communication system between humans and animals. This language ability is what distinguishes humans from animals. Humans organize their lives with language. While animals also have their own way of organizing their lives, especially in communicating. This study aims to analyze the differences between how humans and animals communicate. By using the literature review method as the basis for collecting information, this study seeks to understand the main differences in communication systems and language abilities between the two. The results of the analysis show that the fundamental differences between human and animal communication lie in the structure of the communication system and the language abilities they possess.

Keywords: Human Language, Animal Language, Differences, Communication

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INTRODUCTION

The most reliable and powerful communication tool in community life is language (Mailani et al., 2022). Apriastuti (2017) stated that language is the main aspect of communication in community life, with language humans are able to express their thoughts and feelings. Language and communication have a very close relationship. This relationship is clearly seen in the understanding of language according to the perspective of linguistics and communication, where language is understood as the main tool or media used by humans to interact with each other (Hauser et al., 2012). Communication plays a very important role for humans as social beings who always need the presence of other people. In simple terms, communication functions as a social interaction tool that allows us to understand the attitudes of others as well as recognize ourselves. Thus, communication plays a role in creating balance in relationships with society.

Every human being uses language as a means to interact with others in order to fulfill their life needs. Language is also one of the characteristics that distinguishes humans from other creatures of God (Fitch & Hauser, 2014). However, both humans and animals, as fellow living creatures, have their own communication systems. This ability to speak is what makes humans

unique, allowing them to organize their lives through language. Meanwhile, animals have their own way of organizing and living their lives, especially in terms of communication. For both humans and animals, communication allows them to convey their needs and understand the desires of others (Pinker & Bloom, 2009).

Animal language is a form of communication used by non-human animals and has similarities to human language. Animals communicate through various signs, such as sounds or movements. If the signs or symbols used have a diverse collection, are relatively arbitrary, and do not depend entirely on instinct or natural expression, then this form of communication can be considered complex enough to be called a language (Utami, 2017). Some researchers, including linguist Charles Hockett, argue that human language and animal communication are so fundamentally different that the principles underlying them are considered unrelated (Mestika, 2014). Therefore, linguist Thomas A. Sebeok suggests that the term "language" should not be used to refer to the sign systems used by animals (Nasucha, 2010). However, on the other hand, Marc Hauser, Noam Chomsky, and W. Tecumseh Fitch argue that there is an evolutionary continuum connecting animal communication methods and human language (Lawson, 2011).

Based on the background that has been presented, this study aims to analyze the differences between human language and animal communication. This analysis is carried out with the aim of understanding more deeply the differences in how humans and animals communicate with each other.

METHODOLOGY

The method used in writing this article is a literature review. This article is compiled based on the results of a literature search from national and international sources. This approach is carried out by collecting evidence in the form of written documents that are relevant to the topic of discussion regarding human language and animal language. Keywords used in the literature search include: "language", "language history", "human language", "animal language", "language acquisition", and "communication differences".

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Human Communication Language

Language is the main tool of communication. As a communication tool, language has distinctive characteristics in the form of a series of sounds that are systematically structured, in the form of symbols, arbitrary, meaningful, and conventionally agreed upon. Language is also unique, universal, productive, varied, dynamic, and humane. In addition, language functions as a social interaction tool that allows individuals to convey thoughts, feelings, or expressions to their interlocutors in a social group. Language is not only a means of communication, but also reflects the identity of its speakers. Language has existed for thousands of years and is used by humans to communicate with each other. The presence of language coincides with the presence of human existence, but the debate about the origin of language has not reached an agreement until now (Rahardjo, 210 C.E.). History records that human culture has been filled with the use of symbols that influence various aspects of life, including actions, behavior, language, science, and religious life (Budiono, 2008). In fact, the history of world civilization is basically the history of language. Ancient Greek philosophers

such as Aristotle have realized the importance of language as a tool for seeking and revealing the truth. This can be seen from how all human actions expressed through language can be understood in the context of communication (Wibowo, 2022). Thus, the main emphasis in this case is the role of language as the main means in the communication process.

Language as a means of communication in human life. Humans need communication to help survive, namely by using language to communicate. Language and communication are very closely related, where communication requires language to interact (Suhara, Kiska & Aldila, 2022). Only humans have the ability to speak and use language as a means of communication. However, not all humans master all existing languages. As thinking creatures, humans need a way to express their thoughts so that they can be understood by others. This process is known as communication, which can be seen from both a psychological and mechanical perspective (Kustanti & Prihmayadi, 2017). Human language is a product of culture that needs to be learned and taught, while animal language is instinctive and does not require a formal learning process (Busro, 2015). With language, humans can communicate and understand each other. Conversely, although animals also have a way of communicating, their language cannot be understood by humans. Language is acquired by humans since childhood. Language acquisition is a very long process from when a child is not yet familiar with a language until he is fluent in a language (Syaprizal, 2019). Language acquisition will continue to become language development even until humans die.

According to (Isna: 2019) there are several theories of language development and their explanations which can be seen in the table below.

The Navitist theory, first proposed by Noam Chomsky in 1959,	Holds that there is a close relationship between biological factors and language development. The nativist theory says that humans are born with the ability to understand language.
Behaviorist Theory was first put forward by John B. Watson (1878 -1958).	The behaviorist view assumes that language is a matter of response and imitation. His theory emphasizes attention on the directly perceived aspects of language behavior and the relationship between stimuli and responses in the surrounding world.
Cognitive Theory proposed by Jean Piaget.	Cognitive theory views that thinking skills must develop before language skills. cognitive development of children obtained through interaction with the environment and experience.
Interactionism theory proposed by Lev Vygotsky.	Language acquisition is the result of interaction between the psychological abilities of learners and the language environment.
Functional Theory was put forward by Michael A.K Halliday	Halliday put forward this theory with a primary focus on the function of language in communication and social interaction. According to Halliday, children learn language because of the functional need to communicate.

Basically, language is used as a tool to communicate and interact. To understand language well, it is important to study the communicative and pragmatic functions of language, and consider the various factors that influence both. In this way, we can analyze language more deeply and effectively.

Language functions as the main means of communication, where communication itself is the process of conveying messages or meanings from one person to another. The close relationship between language and humans makes language dynamic; it is not static and always changes along with the development of human activities and life in society. According to Trilling et al (2009), the function of language as a human communication tool includes five basic functions, namely the expression function, information function, exploration function, persuasion function and entertainment function.

- The Expression Function accommodates the concept that language is a human medium to give birth to inner expressions that the speaker wants to convey to others.
- The Information Function is a function to convey messages or mandates to others.
- The Exploration Function is the use of language to explain something, a matter and a situation.
- The Persuasion Function is the use of language that is inviting or influencing.
- The Entertainment Function is the use of language to entertain, please and satisfy the soul.

According to Book (in Deddy Mulyana, quoted by Oktaviani et al., 2017), for communication to be successful, language must fulfill three main functions:

1. Getting to Know the World Around

Language is used to understand the environment, share experiences, and learn from past events or information obtained from various sources, such as print and electronic media. Through language, we can also ask for approval or support for our experiences or opinions and predict the responses of others.

2. Means of Interaction

Language makes it easier for humans to socialize, create harmony, and enjoy relationships as social beings. With language, we can influence the surrounding environment, including the people in it, to achieve common goals.

3. Creating an Orderly Life

Language helps humans get to know themselves, understand their needs, and build clearer life goals. With this order, relationships between humans become more harmonious and life becomes more focused.

Humans have a very broad realm of life, so it is not uncommon if we talk about the function of language, it also depends on the situation and place where the language is used. In addition to the functions above, the general function of language is as a self-identity, unifying the region, as a tool for thinking, and so on. Therefore, every human being has an obligation to understand and use language in their daily lives.

2. Animal Language Communication

Animal language, like human language, serves as a means of communication. However, the way animals communicate is different, because they rely on body language that arises instinctively. Animal communication is usually characterized by body movements or

gestures that describe the condition or information to be conveyed. These movements are a natural way for animals to convey certain situations or messages to each other. Animal language is also often displayed through facial expressions, which play an important role in their communication. For example, angry animals usually show expressions while showing their teeth, often accompanied by distinctive sounds that are different for each type of animal.

According to Jeffrey Mogil's theory, there are five recognizable animal facial expressions, namely tightening the area around the eyes (orbital tightening), enlargement of the nose and chin, and changes in the position of the ears and whiskers. In addition, bringing the eyes together is also part of animal language used to convey information. In addition to facial expressions, animals also use sounds or vocalizations as a form of communication, especially in certain situations such as mating rituals, warnings of danger, notification of the location of food sources, or in the process of social learning. According to Edward S. Reed, as quoted by Ingold, the characteristic of living things lies in their ability to move autonomously (autonomous movement) (Afandi, 2019). This is also seen in animals, where the movements they make are not just a response to stimuli, but the result of their own abilities. In addition, living things, including animals, have the ability to respond and interact, so that their activities are never truly repetitive or completely the same.

However, according to Ingold, one of the human abilities that distinguishes them from animals is language. This view is in line with Aristotle's opinion which states that humans have the ability to speak, which allows them to distinguish between good and bad. In contrast, as expressed by Poe (2016), animals can only produce sounds to indicate feelings, such as pleasure or pain, without complex language abilities like humans.

Each animal has its own advantages in terms of communicating with each other. These advantages are modifications that exist in the animal's body in dealing with the environment. Animals evolve with variations with a high level of specificity so that animals have the ability to communicate through verbal communication such as sound and non-verbal communication such as visual, facial expressions, gestures, following gaze, active visual spectacle, passive visual spectacle, and bioluminescence communication.

A. Sound

Most animals communicate through vocalizations. Communication through vocalizations is essential for many tasks including mating rituals, warning calls, conveying the location of food sources, and social learning. The ability to hear and produce sound provides many advantages for animals in mapping the environment and communicating. Sound can be used at any time, day or night, and can spread quickly in various directions. In addition, sound has a low attenuation rate, so that the resulting signal remains strong and does not easily weaken over a certain distance. Sound is a mechanical disturbance caused by the presence of a vibrating object. For example, a sound can be produced by the force of air passing through the vocal cords as in humans, or by the contact of two hard, opposing surfaces as in the forewings of katydids (grasshopper-like insects with leaf-like wing patterns and longer hind legs than grasshoppers) or the friction of the tymbals on the bodies of cicadas (the cicada family). Other forms of communication include the warning cries of Campbell's monkeys, territorial calls of gibbons, and the use of frequencies in horn-nosed bats to distinguish between groups.

B. Visual

Visual communication in animals involves the use of the sense of sight to capture signals that are conveyed as information. According to (Pinker & Bloom, 2009) this form of visual communication includes:

1. Gestures: Communication through movement or appearance of certain body parts.
2. Facial Expressions: Facial cues that play an important role in conveying emotions or messages.
3. Following Gaze: Coordination between social animals by monitoring the direction of each other's heads and eyes.
4. Active Visual Spectacle: Animals with special skin cells (chromatophores) change the color or reflection of their skin for camouflage or signaling.
5. Passive Visual Spectacle: Information is conveyed through natural body displays without changes in behavior.
6. Bioluminescence Communication: Producing light, commonly used by marine animals such as vertebrates and invertebrates.

Gestures	Male peacocks open and fluff their long tail feathers, displaying striking colorful patterns to attract females during the mating season. This feather movement is a visual signal that indicates good health and genetics, thus attracting females to choose him as a mate.
Facial Expressions	When a dog feels threatened, it shows its teeth and growls, warning the opponent to stay away. In contrast, a happy dog displays a relaxed expression with its mouth slightly open and its tongue sticking out.
Following Gaze	Wolves follow the gaze of the leader to determine the direction of the pack's movement or to locate prey. This gaze is part of the group's coordination for hunting or dealing with threats.
Active Visual Spectacle	Squid use chromatophores in their skin to rapidly change their body color. For example, they can darken to scare off predators or flash certain patterns to communicate with mates during mating season.
Passive Visual Spectacle	Some butterflies have large eye-like patterns on their wings. These patterns are visible to predators such as birds and give the illusion that the butterfly is a large animal, so predators tend to stay away.
Bioluminescence Communication	Fireflies produce flashing light from their abdomens to attract mates. The flashing patterns of light differ for each species, so fireflies can find the right mate.

Animal communication is any transfer of information on the part of one animal that has an effect on the current or future behavior of another animal. The study of animal communication is called Zoosemiotics. Zoosemiotics is different from anthroposemiotics which is called the science of human communication (Lawson, 2011).

3. Differences between animal and human communication

The following are the differences between animal communication systems and human communication systems according to (Lawson, 2011):

Animal Communication Systems	Human communication systems
Animal signals do not show this dual structure (dual articulation).	Human language is characterized by having a dual articulation. This means that complex linguistic expressions can be divided into meaningful elements (such as morphemes and words).
In general, utterances in animals are responses to external stimuli, and do not refer to something removed from time and space.	Human language combines elements to produce new messages (a property known as creativity).
Animal communication systems are not able to express conceptual generalizations.	The growth of human language is based on conceptual ideas and hypothetical structures.

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that language is the most effective communication tool in social life. Both human and animal languages have similarities in their role as a means of communication to convey information. However, there are fundamental differences between the two. Animals cannot use language like humans which consists of structured words. The similarities in question are more in the use of body language and gestures in conveying messages or information.

CONCLUSION

Communication is a reciprocal relationship between individuals in conveying and receiving messages through certain media. In social life, language is a major aspect of communication, allowing humans to express thoughts and feelings clearly through structured words. In contrast, animal language is more identical to body movements and sounds used to convey information or mark an event. Animal language is basic and does not require a learning process, while human language is a science that continues to be developed according to needs and situations. The fundamental difference between human and animal communication lies in the communication system and language ability. Humans use complex and structured language, while animals rely on simple signals that arise from their instincts.

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