

Pragmatics

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This article is about the subfield of linguistics.

Pragmatics is a subfield of [linguistics](#) which studies the use of language in context, or the way that language is used to convey meaning. Pragmatics encompasses [speech acts](#), [talk in interaction](#) and other approaches to language and [linguistics](#).^[1] It studies how the transmission of linguistic knowledge (e.g. [grammar](#), [lexicon](#) etc.) is influenced by the context of the utterance, knowledge about the [intent](#) of the speaker, and so on.^[2] In this respect, users are able to overcome apparent [ambiguity](#) in the place, time etc. of an utterance.^[1] The ability to understand meaning is called *pragmatic competence*. So a function is described as [metapragmatic](#). Pragmatics is one of the most challenging aspects of language learning, ^[*citation needed*]