

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Due Date: _____

What are Speech Acts?

Speech Acts are a fundamental aspect of linguistic theory, dealing with the ways in which speakers convey meaning beyond the literal interpretation of their words.

Activity 1: Identifying Speech Acts

1. Read the following sentences and identify the type of Speech Act each represents:

- "Can you pass the salt?"

- "I promise to be there on time."

- "You're doing a great job!"

Types of Speech Acts

1. **Locutionary Acts:** The literal meaning of the words spoken.
2. **Illocutionary Acts:** The intended meaning or purpose of the words spoken.
3. **Perlocutionary Acts:** The effect of the words spoken on the listener.

Activity 2: Analyzing Speech Acts in Context

Analyze the following dialogue and identify the Speech Acts used by the characters:

Person A: "Do you want to go to the movies tonight?"

Person B: "I'd love to, but I have a lot of work to do."

Person A: "Come on, it'll be fun! You can do your work tomorrow."

Person B: "Okay, fine. But just for a few hours."

Activity 3: Creating Speech Acts

Write a short script of a conversation between two people where at least four different Speech Acts are used. Identify each Speech Act in the script and explain its purpose.

Reflection

Reflect on the importance of understanding Speech Acts in effective communication. Discuss how recognizing and appropriately using Speech Acts can improve interpersonal relationships and avoid misunderstandings.

Quiz

1. What is the main purpose of a locutionary act?

- a) To convey meaning beyond the literal interpretation of words
- b) To intended meaning or purpose of the words spoken
- c) To effect of the words spoken on the listener
- d) To literal meaning of the words spoken

2. Which of the following is an example of a perlocutionary act?

- a) "I'm sorry"
- b) "You're doing a great job!"
- c) "Can you pass the salt?"
- d) "I promise to be there on time."

Extension Activity

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Conduct research on the theoretical frameworks of Speech Acts, such as Austin's and Searle's theories. Compare and contrast these frameworks and discuss their contributions to the understanding of Speech Acts.

Success Criteria

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To successfully complete this assignment, ensure you:

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the definition and types of Speech Acts.
- Accurately identify and analyze Speech Acts in given dialogues and real-life contexts.
- Effectively use Speech Acts in written and role-played conversations.
- Reflect thoughtfully on the importance of Speech Acts in communication and their potential impact on relationships and outcomes.