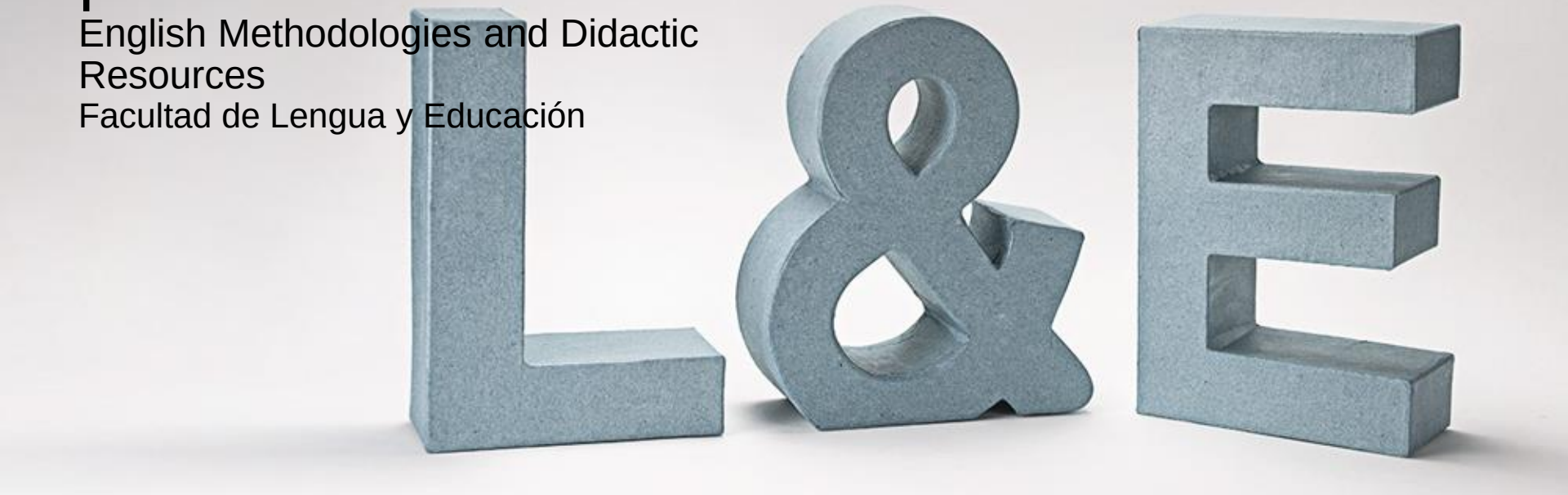
Unit 5. The Communication process.

English Methodologies and Didactic Resources

Facultad de Lengua y Educación



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1. The Communication Process

- Chomsky defined *language* as a set of sentences each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements. He said that a native speaker has a subconscious knowledge of the grammatical rules of his language, which allows him to make sentences in that language. This is what Chomsky called *Communicative Competence.*

Halliday classifies the functions of language into three macro functions and six functions:

- Macro functions: Ideational: it is about our experience; Interpersonal: the aim is to exchange information; and Textual: the aim is the text in the context.

- Functions: Instrumental: it is based on desires or needs; Regulatory: the aim is to give instructions or orders; Interactional: greetings or thanking; Personal: the aim is to express feelings and attitudes; Heuristic: the aim is to ask questions; Imaginative: it is characterized for suppositions; Informative: the aim is to inform



1.1 Language in Use: Hymes' model SPEAKING

- S – setting and scene: time, place and physchological circunstances
- P – participants
- E – ends: the goals and outcomes of the conversation.
- A – act: speech act
- K – key: the tone and manner
- I – instrumentalities: the particular language used
- N – norms: the rules and conventions of speaking
- G – genres: the type of language used.



2. Communication

- According to Halliday (1973), *communication* is the exchange and negotiation of information between at least two individuals through the use of verbal and non-verbal symbols, oral and written.

- Production and comprehension are required actions to achieve the process of communicating.
- Canale defined *communication* in a similar way.

- A cooperative principle is required in order to keep a conversation and a communication.



2.1 Types of Communication

- A) Verbal

According to structuralism and Chomsky, the major form of communication between humans is verbal.

- B) Non-verbal: gestures, facial expressions …

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2.2 Communication features (Candlin and Widdowson)

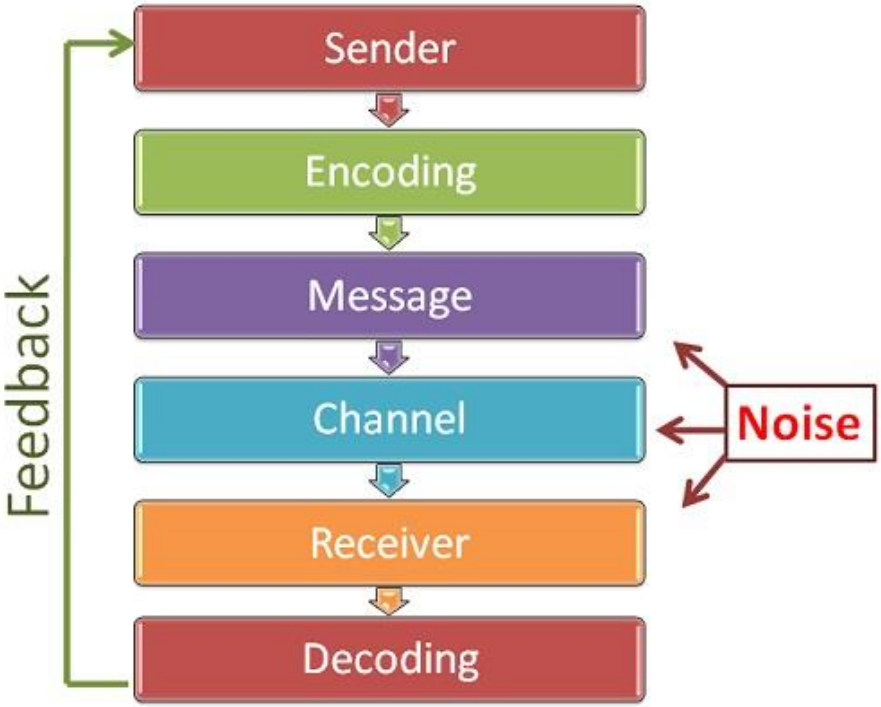
- Communication is a form of social interaction.
- It includes a high degree of unpredictability and creativity in form and meaning.
- It takes place in socio-cultural contexts.
- It is carried out under limiting psychological conditions.
- There is always a purpose.
- It involves authentic language.
- The previous intention determines the successfulness.



2.3 Communication Process

- the Adresser sends a coded message to the addressee within a context.
- Both have to share:
  - The same code
  - A contact /physical or psychological





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2.4 Differences between writing and speech

- Crystal (1987) pointed that:

- Speech is time-bound, dynamic, transient, part of an interaction in which, typically, both participants are present, and the speaker has a specific addressee in mind.

- Writing is space-bound, static, permanent, the result of a situation in which, typically, the producer is distant from the recipient and, often, may not even know who the recipient is.



2.5 Non-verbal communication

The purpose of non-verbal communication is to be part of the functional aspect:

- of communication:
- to communicate emotions
- to regulate communication/conventions.
- To interpret.
- To identify social status, etc.





2.6 Communicative Strategies

Celce-Murcia, M. and Olshtain, E. revised the classification of Tarone:

- Achievement or Compensatory Strategies
  - Aproximation: for example, fish (sardine)
  - Circumlocution: use of the description when I don't know a specific word.
  - Word coinage: composition and derivation
  - Literal translation
  - Language switch: use a word from L1
  - Appeal for assistance: asking for help.
  - Mime: use mime to communicate and express something you don't know the words.
- Avoidance:
  - Topic avoidance
  - Message abandonment.
-
- Time gaining:
  - Use of fillers: *well, you know …*
  - Self/other repetition
-
- Self-monitoring strategies
  - Self initiater: er….
  - Self-rephrasing: for example: this is generally accepted for everyone…
-
- Interaction strategies
  - Appeal for help:
    - Direct
    - Indirect
-
  - Expression of non-understanding
  - Comprehension check
  - Indicator of misunderstanding:
    - Repetition
    - Clarification
    - Confirmation
-

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3. Bibliography

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