

Quick Write..

Take 15 minutes to read and respond to the following...

1. Read "The Day A Language Died"

2. Respond to the following. (Think specifically of how your response relates to the reading on the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis of language.)

- **What arguments (think of at least 2) can you make for the preservation of a language?**
- **What arguments (think of at least 1) can you make against the attempt to preserve a "dying" language?**
- **The author compares the loss of a language to the extinction of a species. Do you think that this is a valid comparison? Explain.**

Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis:

Language determines our experience of reality, and we can see and think only what our language allows us to see and think.

Examples:

- Inuit people - at least 13 different words for "snow"
- Hopi people - have no words or grammatical expressions for the western idea of "time"

Language: value and ambiguity

denotation vs connotation:

- Terrorist / Freedom Fighter
- US Dept of War (-1946) / US Dept of Defense (1947 - present)
- Flying planes can be dangerous
- Raising the bar

IB TOK VOCABULARY (Part 1 of 4)

evaluate - To determine the significance or quality

assess - To determine the value

judge - To form an opinion or estimation after careful consideration

assume - To take for granted or without proof

presume - To take for granted as being true in the absence of proof to the contrary

premise - A proposition upon which an argument is based or from which a conclusion is drawn

axiom - A self-evident truth that requires no proof

principle - A fundamental, primary, or general law or truth from which others are derived

conception - A notion; idea; concept (based on evidence)

preconception - An opinion formed beforehand without adequate evidence

stereotype - Oversimplified conception, opinion, or image

archetype - An ideal example of a type

antithesis - Exact opposite

contradict - To assert or express the opposite of

cohere - To stick together; be united

correspond - To be similar or equivalent

pragmatic - Practical

expedient - Something that is a means to an end

infer - To conclude from evidence or premises

imply - To express or indicate indirectly

demonstrate - To describe, explain, or illustrate by examples

contend - To struggle in opposition

abstract - Considered apart from concrete existence