



New Approaches to Neurolinguistics as an Interdisciplinary Field in Linguistics

Khakimova Dilshoda Oybek qizi ¹

¹ Faculty of English philology and teaching, Uzbekistan State World Languages University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, dilshodaa.khakimova@mail.ru

Annotation: The article below gives data about neurolinguistics, its history, its goals and its importance as an interdisciplinary field in linguistics, and the connectivity between neurolinguistics and linguistics are discussed as well.

Keywords: brain, language, physiology, communication, dyslexia, method, structure.

I. INTRODUCTION

Neurolinguistics studies the neural mechanisms in the human brain that control language comprehension, production, and acquisition. As an interdisciplinary field, neurolinguistics draws on methods and theories from fields such as neuroscience, linguistics, cognitive science, communication disorders, and neuropsychology. Researchers are drawn to the field from a variety of theoretical perspectives as well as a variety of experiences. Much of the work in neurolinguistics draws on models from psycholinguistics and theoretical linguistics to explore how the brain can carry out the processes needed to produce and understand language. Neurolinguists study the physiological mechanisms by which the brain processes language-related information and evaluate linguistic and psycholinguistic theories using aphasiology, brain imaging, electrophysiology, and computer modeling [1]. The term neurolinguistics was coined in the late 1940s and 1950s by Edith Crowell Trager, Henri Hecan, and Alexander Luria. Luria's 1976 book, *Fundamental Problems of Neurolinguistics*, is probably the first book on neurolinguistics. Harry Whitaker popularized neurolinguistics in the United States in the 1970s, founding the journal *Brain and Language* in 1974.

Neurolinguistics historically underlies the development of aphasiology in the 19th century, the study of linguistic deficits (aphasias) resulting from brain damage. Aphasiology attempts to link structure to function by analyzing the effects of brain injuries on language processing. One of the first to make the connection between a certain area of the brain and language processing was the French surgeon Paul Broca, who performed autopsies on many speech-impaired people, most of whom had brain damage (or damage). left frontal lobe, in an area now known as Broca's area. Phrenologists in the early 19th century claimed that different brain regions performed different functions and that language was mainly controlled by the frontal lobes of the brain, but Broca's research was perhaps the first to provide empirical evidence of such a relationship. Described as "groundbreaking" and "seminal" for the fields of neurolinguistics and cognitive science. Later, Karl Wernicke, named after Wernicke's area, has different areas of the brain specialized for different linguistic tasks, Broca's area is involved in the motor production of speech, and Wernicke's area controls auditory speech comprehension. Broca and Wernicke's work created the field of aphasiology and the idea that language could be studied by studying the physical properties of the brain. Early work in aphasiology also benefited from the work of Corbinian Brodmann, who in the early 20th century

"mapped" the surface of the brain, dividing each area into numbered regions based on its cytoarchitecture (cell structure) and function; These areas, known as Brodmann's areas, are still widely used in neuroscience today[2].

II. METHODS

Neurolinguistics studies how language and communication are related to different aspects of brain function, meaning it tries to study how the brain understands and produces language and communication. This involves trying to integrate neuroscience/neurophysiology theory (how the brain is structured and how it works) with linguistic theory (how the language is structured and how it works).

Neurolinguistics is an interdisciplinary field of study that studies the relationship between language and the brain. It studies how the brain processes, produces and understands language and how language affects brain function. Neurolinguistics draws on insights from linguistics, neuroscience, psychology, computer science, and philosophy to understand the complex interactions between language and the brain. One of the main questions that neurolinguistics seeks to answer is how the brain represents and processes language. There are specific areas in the human brain that are responsible for different aspects of language processing. For example, in right-handed people, the left hemisphere of the brain is usually dominant for language processing, and this dominance is evident in the activation of specific regions during language tasks. Broca's area, located in the left frontal cortex, is involved in speech production, and Wernicke's area, located in the left temporal cortex, is involved in language comprehension. These areas are connected by a nerve pathway called the arcuate fasciculus, which facilitates communication between them.

Neurolinguistics also studies how different types of language processing occur in the brain. For example, syntax refers to the rules that govern how words are put together to form sentences. Studies have shown that there are specific regions of the brain that are activated when processing syntactic structures, such as the left inferior frontal gyrus. Similarly, semantics refers to the meaning of words and sentences. The left temporal cortex has been shown to be involved in semantic processing, with different regions specializing in different types of meaning, such as object recognition or word combinations. Another area of interest in neurolinguistics is language development in children. Children acquire language at a remarkable rate, and this process has been the subject of extensive research. Research has shown that babies can distinguish different speech sounds from a very young age and can recognize familiar words by six months of age. As children continue to develop language skills, they begin to produce their own words and sentences, and their brains undergo significant changes to support this process. For example, there is evidence that as children grow, the left hemisphere becomes more specialized for language processing.

III. RESULTS

Neurolinguistics also studies how brain damage or neurological disorders affect language. For example, aphasia is a language disorder that can occur as a result of brain damage, often a stroke. People with aphasia may have difficulty producing or understanding language, depending on the specific area of the brain that is affected. Neurolinguistics research has helped identify different types of aphasia and the brain regions involved in each type.

Another neurological disorder that has been extensively studied in the context of neurolinguistics is dyslexia. Dyslexia is a learning disorder that affects the ability to read and is thought to be caused by differences in the way the brain processes written language. Research has shown that people with dyslexia have different patterns of brain activation during reading than people without dyslexia. Understanding these differences can help develop more effective interventions for individuals with dyslexia. Neurolinguistics also studies the relationship between language and other cognitive processes such as memory and attention. For example, research has shown that memory and language processing are closely related, and both processes rely on similar brain regions. Attention is also critical to language processing, as people must focus on relevant information to understand and produce language. Understanding the relationship between language and other cognitive processes can help shed light on how the brain integrates information. Finally, neurolinguistics has practical

applications in areas such as education, communication disorders, and artificial intelligence. For example, understanding how children acquire language can inform teaching methods and curriculum development. Similarly, understanding the neural basis of language disorders can help to develop more effective interventions for individuals with communication difficulties. In the field of artificial intelligence, neurolinguistics research can help to develop more sophisticated natural language processing algorithms that mimic the way the human brain processes language.

IV. DISCUSSION

Linguistics is the scientific study of language and its structure. It includes the study of phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. Linguists seek to understand how language is structured, how it is used in communication, and how it differs across cultures and languages. Neurolinguistics is a sub-field of linguistics that studies how the brain processes, produces, and understands language. He studies the neural basis of language and how different regions of the brain are involved in language processing. Neurolinguistics relies on linguistic concepts to understand how language is structured and used in communication.

One of the main areas of overlap between neurolinguistics and linguistics is syntax. Syntax refers to the rules that govern how words are put together. Linguists study the structure of sentences and the rules that govern their formation. Neurolinguists study how syntax is represented in the brain and which brain regions are involved in the processing of syntactic structures. Studies have shown that there are specific regions of the brain that are activated when processing syntactic structures, such as the left inferior frontal gyrus. This area is often called Broca's area and is involved in speech production. Another brain region involved in language processing is Wernicke's area in the left temporal cortex. This region is involved in language comprehension and is responsible for semantic processing.

The relationship between neurolinguistics and linguistics can also be seen in the study of language acquisition. Linguists study how children acquire language and the stages of language development. Neurolinguists study the neural basis of language development and how the brain changes as children acquire language. Research has shown that babies can distinguish different speech sounds from a very young age and can recognize familiar words by six months of age. As children continue to develop language skills, they begin to produce their own words and sentences, and their brains undergo significant changes to support this process. For example, there is evidence that as children grow, the left hemisphere becomes more specialized for language processing.

Neurolinguistics and linguistics also overlap in the study of language disorders. Linguists study different types of language disorders, such as aphasia and dyslexia, and how they affect language production and comprehension. Neurolinguists study the neural basis of these disorders and how they affect language processing in the brain. Aphasia is a language disorder that can result from brain damage, often a stroke. People with aphasia may have difficulty producing or understanding language, depending on the specific area of the brain that is affected. Neurolinguistics research has helped identify different types of aphasia and the brain regions involved in each type. Dyslexia is a learning disorder that affects the ability to read and is thought to be caused by differences in the way the brain processes written language. Research has shown that people with dyslexia have different patterns of brain activation during reading than people without dyslexia. Understanding these differences can help develop more effective interventions for individuals with dyslexia.

V. CONCLUSION

Finally, neurolinguistics and linguistics overlap in the study of language and its relationship to other cognitive processes such as memory and attention. Research has shown that memory and language processing are closely related, and both processes rely on similar brain regions. Attention is also critical to language processing, as people must focus on relevant information to understand and produce language. In summary, neurolinguistics and linguistics are closely related fields of study that seek to understand the complex interactions between language and the brain. Neurolinguistics draws on concepts from linguistics to study the neural basis of language processing, language acquisition, and language disorders. The relationship between neurolinguistics and linguistics has important

practical implications for fields such as education, communication disorders, and artificial intelligence, and is likely to remain a fruitful area of study for years to come.

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