

# Introduction to semantics

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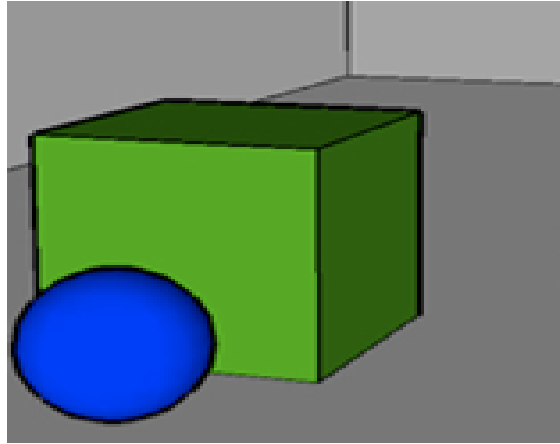
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# Semantics kia hai?

1. Semantics is study of the meaning of words or **the systematic study of meaning**.

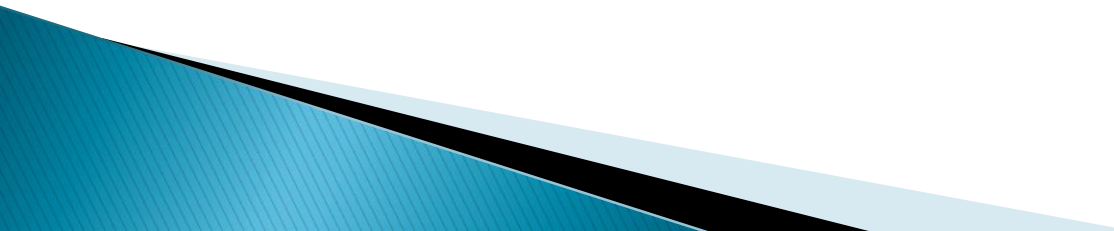
2. Semantics is the branch of linguistics that deals with **the study of meaning, changes in meaning, and the principles that govern the relationship between sentences or words and their meanings**.

# Ways to convey meaning

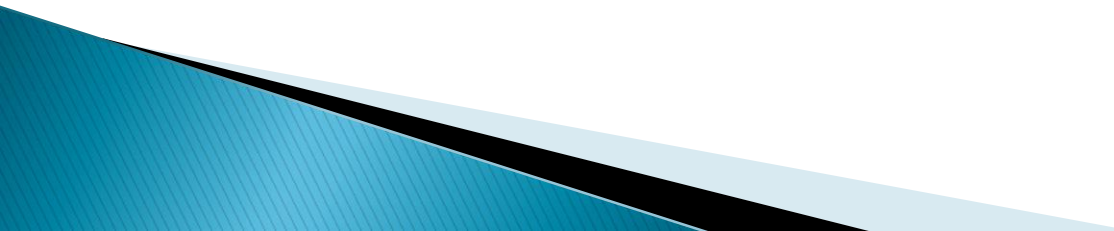


- ▶ The circle is in front of the square.
- ▶ The square is behind the circle.

# Semantic relation

- ▶ SYNONYM
  - ▶ ANTONYM
  - ▶ HOMONYM
  - ▶ POLYSEMY
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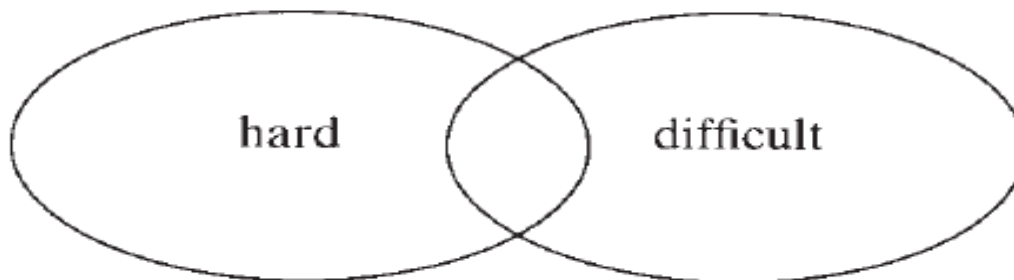
# SYNONYM

- ▶ SYNONYM is a pair of words which have the same meaning but actually both of them are not exactly the same meaning.
  - ▶ Able, capable
  - ▶ Beautiful, pretty
  - ▶ Home=house?
  - ▶ Slender=skinny?
  - ▶ Antique=old-fashioned?
  - ▶ Inexpensive=cheap?
- 

# Is this synonym?

- ▶ Hard = difficult?
- ▶ The questions are difficult.
- ▶ The questions are hard?
- ▶ Hardrock Café = difficult rock Café?
- ▶ Hard times = difficult times?
- ▶ Hard/solid substance = difficult substance?

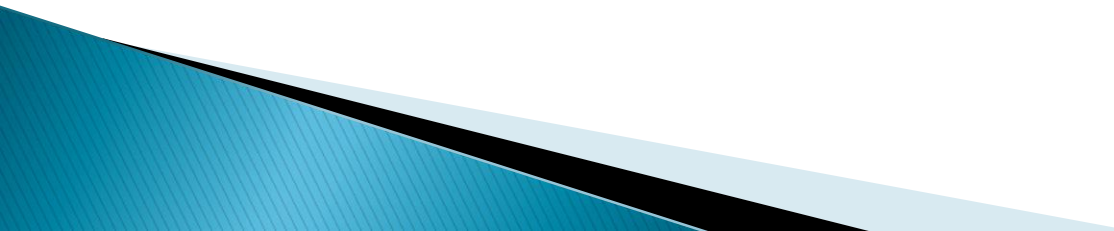
compatibility; the ranges overlap but they are not co-extensive. Ranges and their overlap can be illustrated this way:



# ANTONYM

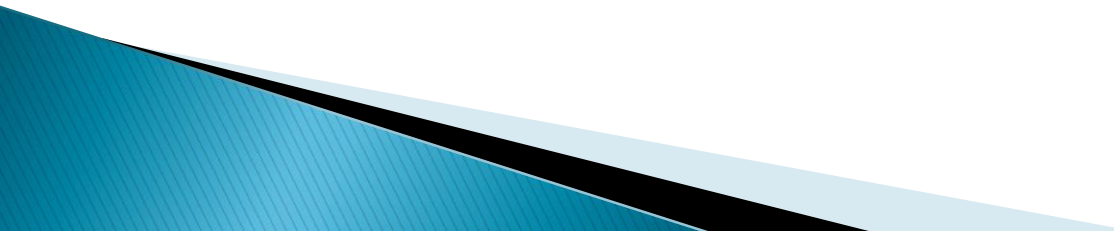
- ▶ ANTONYM is the pair of words which have opposite meaning
- ▶ Awake vs asleep
- ▶ Begin vs finish/stop
- ▶ Good vs bad
- ▶ Black vs white
- ▶ Beautiful vs ugly
- ▶ Smart vs stupid
- ▶ Hard rock vs soft rock? 😊

# polysemy

- ▶ Polysemy occurs when a word has two or more related meanings:
  - ▶ - human back
  - ▶ -the back of the chair
  - ▶ -the back of the sofa
  - ▶ -the back of the hand
  - ▶ -the back of football player
- 



# Polisemy

- ▶ Human foot
  - ▶ The foot of a bed
  - ▶ The foot of a hill
  - ▶ The foot of the mountain.
- 
- ▶ Human eye
  - ▶ Keep an eye on him
  - ▶ The eye of a needle
  - ▶ The eye of a potato
- 

# Homonym

▶ It means two concepts, A and B which are expressed by the same symbol:

▶ BANK

▶ 1. a financial institution

▶ 2. the edge of the river.

▶ PUPIL 1. (Student) 2. (in the eye)

CAN (1. metal container for liquids)

(2. be able to)

MISS (1. Fail, 2. title for an unmarried woman)

# TYPES OF MEANING (DENOTATIVE VS CONNOTATIVE)

- ▶ Denotation is the dictionary meaning of a word/lexical meaning.
- ▶ Connotation is the emotional, additional, and imaginative meaning surrounding a word.
- ▶ **House vs home**
- ▶ Broken house vs broken home?
- ▶ Homesickness **Not** house sickness
- ▶ Home sweet home **Not** House sweet house
- ▶ home= love, security, privacy, comfort

# Shades of meaning

NO	(+) CONNOTATION	(-) CONNOTATION
1	STATESMAN	POLITICIAN
2	STREET MUSICIAN/SINGER	SINGING BEGGAR
3	SURPRISED	SHOCKED
4	CHEF	COOK
5	SLENDER/SLIM	SKINNY
6	CONDUCTED	COMMITTED
7	INEXPENSIVE	CHEAP
8	CHILDLIKE	CHILDISH
9	SALIVA	SPIT
10	ANTIQUUE	OLD-FASHIONED
11	RELAXED	LAZY
12	SNAKE	SERPENT
13	GOV.EMPLOYEE	CIVIL SERVANT

Thank you

