

Exam 1 review sheet – exam in DS online, March 5

Single Choice Questions + Multiple Choice Questions

You are **allowed** a single-sided handwritten cheat sheet on the day of the exam.

Topics:

Week 1/2: Animal communication

- Modes of communication: see list on the slides. How do species communicate?
- What do they communicate about? (list at least three things)
- Innate *versus* learned: bees communicative system, song sparrows,...
- How do you know if it is learned or innate? How could you test it?
- Can dogs or chimps use words? Can they communicate the same way humans do? Why? How are chimps and humans physically different? (brain, physical apparatus)

Week 3: Mental grammar

- what do we call 'mental grammar'?
- What do speakers of any language know about their own language?
- How do we test their knowledge? (tests such as grammaticality judgments)
- Is acquiring/learning a first language, a conscious or unconscious phenomenon? Explain.
- How do we know we don't store every single occurrence/sentence in one's mind?
- Be able to define: syntax, semantics, morphology, phonology and pragmatics.
- Facts about grammars: are they equal, do they change over time...?
- Define in your own words 'discrete infinity'

Week 4: Descriptivism and prescriptivism

- Define both
- give three examples of prescriptivist rules
- What is the goal for prescriptivists? (two goals)
- Who makes those rules? (France, USA).
- What do linguists do? (descriptivists)