Linguistics — study of languages

- Phonetics: physical production of sounds
- Phonology: how sounds interact
- Syntax: study of grammar
- Semantics: study of meaning
- Pragmatics: study of context

- Historical Linguistics: study of development (often a college course)
- Lexicology: study of words
  - not to be confused with lexicography: practice of compiling dictionaries
- Morphology: word forms
  - Inflectional morphology: how words vary in their form in order to express a grammatical contrast
  - Lexical/derivative morphology: how words can be built up out of combinations of elements
- Orthography: a set of conventions for writing a language

- Graphemics/graphematics: study of writing systems
- Syllabic: symbols represent syllables
- Alphabetic: symbols roughly represent phonemes
- Logographic: symbols represent words/morphemes

- Semiotics — study of signs and symbols
- Etymology: word origins

- Syntax: study of grammar
  - the set of structural rules governing the composition of clauses, phrases, and words
- Semantics: study of meaning
- Pragmatics: study of context

- Inflectional morphology: how words vary in their form in order to express a grammatical contrast
- Lexical/derivative morphology: how words can be built up out of combinations of elements

- Orthography: a set of conventions for writing a language

- Graphemics/graphematics: study of writing systems
  - Topographic: symbols represent words/morphemes
  - Syllabic: symbols represent syllables
  - Alphabetic: symbols roughly represent phonemes

- Syllabic: symbols represent syllables
  - Example: hiragana and katakana writing system of Japanese
  - Example: romaji writing system of Japanese

- Alphabetic: symbols roughly represent phonemes
  - Example: examples

- Logographic: symbols represent words/morphemes
  - Example: kanji writing system of Japanese
  - Example: Chinese

- Example: in the case of horses, the ending “s” marks plurality

- Example: electro-magnet-ics

- Example: the “s” marks plurality

- The analytic approach: top-down
- The synthetic approach: bottom-up

- Subfields:
  - Morphology: word forms
  - Lexicology: study of words
  - Semiotics — study of signs and symbols
  - Lexicography: practice of compiling dictionaries
  - Morphology
  - Inflectional morphology: how words vary in their form in order to express a grammatical contrast
  - Lexical/derivative morphology: how words can be built up out of combinations of elements
  - Phonetics: physical production of sounds
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- Synthetic approach: bottom-up

- Common approaches:
  - In synchrony
  - In diachrony