



# Psycholinguistics: Introduction and Applications

By Lise Menn

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## Psycholinguistics: Introduction and Applications By Lise Menn

For students in speech-language pathology, language education, psychology, linguistics, as well as for working language professionals, this text provides a clear and attractive introduction to current thinking on how our brains process language in speaking, understanding, and reading. It presents a completely integrated, self-contained account of psycholinguistics and its clinical and pedagogical applications, within a unifying framework of the constant interplay of bottom-up and top-down processing across all language uses and modalities. References to applications throughout the foundational chapters keep the reader connected to real-world, clinical, and language-teaching applications; this is especially valuable for working professionals who are using the book for self-study and for students in applied fields who need to master and use key concepts from linguistics and psychology. After establishing the basics of language description and normal language processing, the text and its accompanying CD present classical and recent research on first-language development, the differences between learning first and second languages, and the effects of brain damage on the use of language. The author writes vividly and directly, drawing on her experience as a classroom teacher, interdisciplinary researcher, author, and international lecturer. Technical terms are clearly explained in context and also in a large reference glossary.

Five core chapters form the foundation for chapters on each of four research areas of applied psycholinguistics: aphasia, first language development, reading, and second language learning. The final chapter demonstrates how linguistics and psycholinguistics can and should inform classroom and clinical practice in test design and error analysis, while also explaining the care that must be taken in translating theoretically based ideas into such real-world applications. For all of these topics, the CD provides links to recent publications and relevant Web sites for readers to explore on their own.

Instructors, why adopt this text?

- Glossary of technical terms that are also clearly explained throughout the text
- Written by a professor with the student curriculum in mind
- CD includes sound files, links to help with learning the International Phonetic Alphabet, and a more compact alternative version of the introductory section

- Clear and attractive layout of clinical and pedagogical applications
- Coverage on a range of phenomena, such as oral apraxia, overgeneralization, semantic category priming, perseveration, garden-path sentences, proofreader's errors, and failure to generalize training

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#### Review

"Unique features include a detailed table of contents, extensive glossary of terms, a CD with audio and video material that helps readers understand experiments, and links to Web sites, a reference list, and exercises. The book is easy to read with interesting tables and figures. Each chapter has exercises at the end that help reinforce learning. With the exercises at the end of each chapter, the CD with helpful materials, and a 68-page glossary, this is a practical book that covers a wide array of topics in psycholinguistics. 4 Stars!" --Gary B Kaniuk, Psy.D., Cermak Health Service, Doody's Review Service, (April 2011)

#### About the Author

**Lise Menn, PhD**, Professor Emerita, University of Colorado, has taught courses in linguistics, language development, psycholinguistics, and neurolinguistics at the University of Colorado, Boulder and other schools since 1977. She has carried out collaborative research on aphasia with colleagues in many countries and has presented lectures, workshops, and short courses on the practical value of thinking psycholinguistically about language learning and language disorders in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China and Taiwan, Finland, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Singapore, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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