

Paper XI :
Language and Linguistics

Module I :

Language and Communication

**Language is a purely human and non-
instinctive method of communicating ideas,
emotions and desires by means of a system
of voluntarily produced symbols.**

Sapir : Language

A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates.

Bloch & Trager : Outline of Linguistic Analysis

**Language is a human... verbal systematic
symbolism ... a means of transmitting information
... a form of social behaviour ... (with a) high
degree of convention.**

J. Whatmough : Language

A language (is a) symbol system ... based on pure or arbitrary convention ... infinitely extendable and modifiable according to the changing needs and conditions of the speakers.

R. H. Robins : General Linguistics

Human Languages are unlimited (an unlimited sets of discrete signals) ... have great structural complexity ... structured on at least two levels ... (the learning task is considerable) ... are open – ended ... allow for the transmission of information.

R. W. Langacker : Language and Its Structure

Thank you...