



Texas Wesleyan
UNIVERSITY

EDU 6356: Applied Linguistics

Module 1 Short Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Overview:

This assignment will help you to understand the two major approaches regarding how human beings acquire language. This assignment will provide foundation for future learning on second language acquisition starting in Module 2. In this paper you will compare and contrast internal and external theories of language acquisition including Universal Grammar and Functionalism. In your paper you should include the following concepts of the internal and external theories including: Language Acquisition Device (LAD), Poverty of the Stimulus, and Behaviorist Theory.

Prompt:

Describe internal and external theories of language acquisition.

Compare and contrast internal and external theories of language acquisition including:

- Universal Grammar
- Functionalism

You should specifically explain the following concepts in internal and external theories of language acquisition as you compare and contrast the theories:

- Language Acquisition Device (LAD)
- Poverty of the Stimulus
- First language acquisition from the Behaviorist perspective

Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: Your paper must be submitted as a 2-3 page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least two sources cited in APA format.

Instructor Feedback: This activity uses an integrated rubric in Blackboard. Students can view instructor feedback in the Grade Center.



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Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement (55%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Internal and External Theories	Describes internal and external theories of language acquisition with sophisticated awareness.	Describes internal and external theories of language acquisition.	Describes internal and external theories of language acquisition but response is missing details, accuracy, and/or clarity.	Does not describe internal and external theories of language acquisition.	18
Compare and Contrast Theories	Compares and contrasts internal and external theories of language acquisition with rich, relevant details and examples.	Compares and contrasts internal and external theories of language acquisition.	Compares and contrasts internal and external theories of language acquisition but response is missing details, accuracy, and/or clarity.	Does not compare or contrast internal and external theories of language acquisition.	18
LAD	Explains LAD and includes cogent connections to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	Explains LAD and includes the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	Explains LAD and connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition but response is missing details, accuracy, and/or clarity.	Does not explain LAD or the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	18
Poverty of the Stimulus	Explains Poverty of the Stimulus and includes cogent connections to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	Explains Poverty of the Stimulus and includes the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	Explains Poverty of the Stimulus and connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition but response is missing details, accuracy, and/or clarity.	Does not explain Poverty of the Stimulus or the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	18
Behaviorist perspective	Explains the Behaviorist perspective and includes cogent connections.	Explains the Behaviorist perspective and includes the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	Explains the Behaviorist perspective and connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition but response is missing details, accuracy, and/or clarity.	Does not explain the Behaviorist perspective or the connection to internal/external theories of language acquisition.	18



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Articulation of Response	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy to read format.	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization.	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas.	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas.	10
Total					100 %