

Glossary Assignment: Daniel Petti

1. Biosphere

The sum of all global ecosystems.

2. Code

A set of conventions used to convey meaning.

3. conative function (of communication)

Direct message to the addressee, often used for commands.

4. conceptual metaphor

The instance where one idea, or set of ideas, is related to or linked to another set of ideas.

5. conceptual metonym

The invocation of a concept by bringing forward one aspect of that concept, or an associative detail.

6. Connotation

The implied meaning of a sign.

7. Context

The circumstances of a given sign.

8. conventional sign

Signs that obtain their meaning through convention or tradition.

9. Denotation

The literal meaning of a sign.

10. Deconstruction

The removal of pre-conceived notions regarding an idea or ideology, so as to look at the idea with no biases.

11. Diachronic

The viewpoint of language in the terms of its full historical lifespan.

12. discursive symbols

Symbols that occur over a period of time, and thus cannot be viewed in its entirety at once.

13. emotive function (of communication)

Used to give emotion to a communication, generally as an addendum to the addresser.

14. Firstness

The direct feeling of a sign, one that needs no interpretation, understanding, or explanation, and functions purely on its own accord.

15. Haptics

The study of touch-based sign systems.

16. Gesture

Physical movements that are used in communication.

17. Gesticulant

Gesture signs that accompany speech

18. grammar

19. Hyperreality

An extremely realistic portrayal of something, to the point of overshooting the mark and becoming unrealistically realistic.

20. Icon

A sign that represents something else in a literal sense.

21. image schema

A term coined by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson to describe recurring structures of or in our cognitive operations that portray shapes, locations, and so on to the mind.

22. Interpretant

Changing a sign's meaning to reflect person experiences and context.

23. Index

A sign that indicates the existence, or the details regarding that existence, of another object or sign.

24. infinite semiosis

The idea that signs beget an infinite number of related and adjacent signs.

25. Kinesics

The study of semiotics as related to the body.

26. Langue

Forms and functions of sounds, verbage, and grammar constructs of various languages.

27. metalingual function (of communication)

A function of communication that indicates the code being used, and identifies it.

28. Modernism

Broadly defined, can be clarified as the movement of arts and thought focused on 'modernity', with clean orderedness, specific terminologies and ideas, and optimistic and straightforward approaches.

29. Myth

A narrative that tries to explain a difficult to grasp or unknowable concept in terms of gods, demons, or other supernatural or metaphysical entities.

30. Narrative

Something that is said or written such as an account, biography, story, or myth.

31. natural sign

A sign produced by nature, like the coloration on a poison frog.

32. Oculistics

The study of eye movement or behavior, a subcategory of kinesics.

33. Object

A thing that is referred to by a sign.

34. Paradigm

A set of thoughts, concepts, or theories.

35. Paradigmatic

Structure between signs that keeps them separate and understandable.

36. Parole

The everyday use of language in given social situations.

37. phatic function (of communication)

A function of communication that establishes contact between the addresser and the receiver.

38. poetic function (of communication)

A function of communication that uses poetic, flowery language.

39. Postmodernism

A broad movement in the arts and philosophy, developed as a counterpoint to modernism, wherein life has no given meaning, and attempts to understand or order it fully are futile. The relativity of knowledge and a sense of freedom and pessimism are also core tenets.

40. Poststructuralism

A semiotic movement that counters semiotic structuralism, instead arguing that there is not necessarily a relation to reality in signs.

41. presentational symbols

A complete symbol, such as a map or diagram.

42. Proxemics

The study of semiotics as related to the physical space between people.

43. referential function (of communication)

A communicative function wherein the communication refers directly to its subject.

44. Representamin

In Pierce's view on semiotics, it is the physical portion of a sign.

45. Representation

Wherein referents are codified somehow by text or another sign.

46. Secondness

Relating signs to one another, or to other things.

47. Semiotics

The study of signs and sign systems.

48. Semiosphere

A counterpoint to the biosphere, containing signs, codes, and texts.

49. Semiosis

The understanding of and the making of signs.

50. signifying order

The order wherein the human mind can understand and appreciate the information in the world around them.

51. sign (think something relatively abstract)

Something that stands for something else.

52. sign (think Peirce)

Pierce defined the sign as three parts: the representamen, the physical portion of a sign, then there is the object, which is what the representamen refers to, then there is the interpretant, which is the meaning derived from the sign.

53. sign (think Saussure)

Saussure defined the sign as two parts: the signifier and the signified. The signifier is the physical portion of the sign itself, while the signified is what it represents.

54. Signal

Some action that triggers some response on the part of the reader.

55. Signified

What a signifier refers to.

56. Signifier

The physical portion of a sign.

57. Structuralism

The study of the structures found within semiotics.

58. Symbol

A sign that contains meaning through cultural or learned connotation.

59. Symptom

A natural signal produced by a physical body.

60. Synchronic

The study of signs at a distinct point in time.

61. Syntagm

A linguistic or semiotic unit that is in a sequential relation to other linguistic or semiotic units.

62. Syntagmatic

A structural connection between signs that give them coherence and meaning.

63. Text

A sign, generally large or composed of many other signs, put together in the form of a specific or given code.

64. Thirdness

The level of meaning derived from the symbolical connotations of a sign.

65. unlimited semiosis

The idea that a signified can serve as a signifier for something else, leading to an unbroken infinite chain of semiosis.