

Glossary Assignment

Abstract:

The goal of this assignment is to create a glossary of 65 terms that highly relate to semiotics. The aim in this goal is to create a document that someone with no prior knowledge in the field will be able to understand the terms. There will be a paper that this document is linked to and this will be a key to deciphering what the intended meaning of the paper is.

Terms:

- 1. Biosphere** – The environment that an organism is surrounded by and reared in.
- 2. Code** – A code is a set of signs that one uses to convey messages
- 3. Conative Function** – Conative function is a message that entirely or in part focuses on the receiver of the said message.
- 4. Conceptual Metaphor** – An associative connection between an abstract concept and a real-world outcome
- 5. Conceptual Metonym** – Similar to a conceptual metaphor, but a broader term for the association itself
- 6. Connotation** – The social or personal meaning behind something
- 7. Context** – The background information relevant to a particular subject
- 8. Conventional Sign** – A sign created by humans and in society
- 9. Denotation** – The exact or dictionary definition of something
- 10. Deconstruction** – A form of analyzing language and its relation to the real world by breaking it down to its base components
- 11. Diachronic** – How something has been changed over time
- 12. Discursive Symbols** – Must be understood overtime, cannot be interpreted as a whole until time has passed and the entire thing has been absorbed piece by piece
- 13. Emotive Function** – A message that entirely or in part focuses on the sender of said message
- 14. Firstness** – Something that induces a feeling of isolated perception; not needing to know anything else to understand it

- 15. Haptics** – The meaning behind physical touch or lack thereof
- 16. Gesture** – A bodily movement that conveys something about one's mood or directive
- 17. Gesticulant** – A way to describe someone making gestures
- 18. Grammar** – The set of rules or structure that a language follows to be correct
- 19. Hyperreality** – The line between what is real and what is fiction is blurred
- 20. Icon** – Signs that link themselves to their meaning through their resemblance
- 21. Image Schema** – The mechanism that allows conceptual metaphors to be created; mental images of how things work
- 22. Interpretant** – One of Peirce's three basic elements of a sign; a different sign for the same object
- 23. Index** – A sign that forms its relationship to the object through its relation to it.
- 24. Infinite Semiosis** – The concept that signs are intrinsically and inseparably infinite in nature
- 25. Kinesics** – The study of how body language conveys its meaning across different cultures
- 26. Langue** – Viewing language as an abstract
- 27. Metalingual Function** – The function of communicating about the language itself or other languages
- 28. Modernism** – Signs represent the world around us and in turn encode the world for us
- 29. Myth** – A form of narrative to explain the unexplainable phenomenon
- 30. Narrative** – A way of communicating information
- 31. Natural Sign** – A sign that is naturally occurring; animals and symptoms of sickness
- 32. Oculistics** – The study of how eye movement conveys meaning
- 33. Object** – The thing that is being referred to by the sign
- 34. Paradigm** – a set of concepts that make up the field being described as a whole
- 35. Paradigmatic** – A form of structure that entails changing the actual content of the subject
- 36. Parole** - the actual linguistic behavior or performance of individuals, in contrast to the linguistic system of a community.
- 37. Phatic Function** - A function of communication used to make sure all participants are still engaged, rather than add to the content
- 38. Poetic Function** – A message that entirely or in part on the content or structure of said message

- 39. Postmodernism** – The rejection of modern ideas and everything they entail
- 40. Poststructuralism** – A way of looking at the world that questions objective truth or reality
- 41. Presentational Symbols** – Can only be understood as a whole; is more than just the sum of its parts
- 42. Proxemics** – The field of study where the distance of one person to another reveals something about the nature of the confrontation
- 43. Referential Function** – A message that entirely or in part refers to something outside of the message itself
- 44. Representamen** – Something that stands for something to someone
- 45. Representation** – The process by which we process or generate meaning
- 46. Secondness** – Something that refers to something else; there must be at some level, an understanding of something outside of the object to understand it
- 47. Semiotics** – The study of signs and signs systems; in turn, how signs work together and meaning is derived from them
- 48. Semiosphere** – The interconnected tissue linking all signs together; the biosphere for the world of semiotics
- 49. Semiosis** - Any form of activity, conduct, or process that involves signs, including the production of meaning
- 50. Signifying Order** – A system of different types of signs that interact with each other into patterns of representation which can be utilized to make or exchange messages
- 51. Sign** – Something that stands for something else in any meaningful way
- 52. Sign (Peircean)** – Something that can be broken down into three essential parts (Sign, Object, and Interpretant) that is invariably linking two seemingly unrelated things
- 53. Sign (Saussurean)** – Something that can be broken down into two essential parts (Signifier and Signified) that arbitrarily links two things together
- 54. Signal** – A natural sign that is used to convey physical needs of the body
- 55. Signified** – The part of Saussure's model of the sign that is the object being referred to by the signifier
- 56. Signifier** – The part of Saussure's model of the sign that is referring to the signifier
- 57. Structuralism** – A way of looking at the world that analyzes the connections between everything we perceive in reality
- 58. Symbol** – A sign that refers to its object through cultural learning

59. Symptom – A natural sign that is used to alert the body of its altered physical state

60. Synchronic – A viewing of something at a particular point in time (as opposed to Diachronic)

61. Syntagm – A constituent unit in a particular text

62. Syntagmatic – A form of structure that entails changing the order of the subject

63. Text – A structure that is composed of smaller signs and purposefully organized in a particular way to convey meaning

64. Thirdness – Something that requires and understanding of multiple other things outside of itself for one to truly understand it as a whole

65. Unlimited Semiosis – The concept that the Signified can be endlessly swapped out and replaced to represent any given signifier and in turn would become a signifier for a future signified