

# Molly Bogart - Glossary of Semiotic Terms

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## Glossary

1. Biosphere - The physical environment where an organism adapts
2. Code - A specific set of paradigmatic and syntagmatic conventions according to which texts are produced and interpreted
3. Conative function (of communication) - Use of language to influence the listener to bring out some practical effect via verbal communication
4. Conceptual metaphor - Understanding of one idea, or conceptual domain, in terms of another domain
5. Conceptual metonym - Understanding of one idea, or conceptual domain, in terms of a word or phrase referring to something with a relatively extended meaning or changed its lexical class to stand for a whole
6. Connotation - Associated meanings related to a word or sign
7. Context - Environment where signs are produced and interpreted
8. Conventional sign - Sign created from human cleverness
9. Denotation - Definition or literal meaning of a word or sign
10. Deconstruction - Refers to the idea that texts can be deconstructed into a series of oppositions
11. Diachronic - Focus on something over time
12. Discursive symbols - Combination of bits of meanings that flow together
13. Emotive function (of communication) - Use of language to convey mood or attitude
14. Firstness - Form of meaning derived from a feeling or isolated perception
15. Gesture - Semiotics by means of the hand, arms, and the head
16. Gesticulant - Gesture unit that accompanies speech
17. Grammar - Set of rules and or principles that govern a syntactic structure in a language
18. Haptics - Study of touching patterns during social interactions
19. Hyperreality - Image(s) or simulation(s) that distort reality or doesn't depict anything with a real existence at all, but constitutes as reality
20. Icon - Sign that represents meaning by virtue of some form of resemblance to its object
21. Image Schema - Recurring structures of perceptual interactions, bodily experiences, and cognitive operations that portray locations, movements, shapes, etc. in our mind
22. Interpretant - Mental effect produced by the sign or the sense made of it in light of personal/social experience
23. Index - Sign that represents meaning by relating to its object spatially or temporally by some other act of perception
24. Infinite Semiosis - An endless process of signs producing other signs and those signs producing signs and so on
25. Kinesics - Study of bodily semiosis
26. Langue - System of signs and collection of relations between signs that constitute as language
27. Metalingual Function - Function where the code used is known or identified

28. Modernism - A multidimensional cultural movement that favored progress, optimism, rationality, and absolute knowledge among other characteristics
29. Myth - A story that aims to explain the origin of life or the universe in terms of a metaphysical or deistic entity or entities.
30. Narrative - Something told or written
31. Natural Sign - A sign produced by nature or natural means
32. Oculistics - The study of eye movement
33. Object - What the sign stands for
34. Paradigm - A substitutional piece of a grammatical form
35. Paradigmatic - Structural relationship between signs, or paradigms
36. Parole - The collection of utterances that comprise speech
37. Phatic Function (of communication) - Function where the connection between addressee and addresser is established
38. Poetic Function (of communication) - Function where the language used is poetic or iconic in nature
39. Postmodernism - Focus on world and observation, roots in architecture
40. Poststructuralism - Focus on theory, roots in linguistics
41. Presentational Symbols - Symbols that are perceived as complete units
42. Proxemics
  - a. Study of the symbolic structure of physical space between people
43. Referential Function (of communication) - Function of communication used to convey information or meaning
44. Representamen - The physical form of a sign
45. Representation - Process where referents are captured and organized in some way by signs or texts
46. Secondness - Form of meaning derived from relations or differences among perceived facts
47. Semiotics - Study of signs and sign systems
48. Semiosphere - World of signs, codes, and texts
49. Semiosis - Production and comprehension of signs
50. Signifying Order - Order in which humans perceive or interpret the world
51. Sign (think something relatively abstract) - Something that refers or represents something else
52. Sign (think Peirce) - Something that stands for something to somebody in some respect or capacity
53. Sign (think Saussure) - Composed of a signifier and signified where the two have an arbitrary connection.
54. Signal - Emission or movement that naturally or conventionally triggers some reaction from the receiver
55. Signified - A concept that appears in mind when we encounter a signifier
56. Signifier - Material (audio, visual, etc.) manifestation of a sign
57. Structuralism - A movement that focused on the relationship between language, society, meaning, and structure among other aspects of semiotics

58. Symbol - A sign which represents meaning by relating to its object in a manner that is determined by social/cultural convention
59. Symptom - Bodily sign that stands for some ailment, physical condition, or disease
60. Synchronic - Focus on something at a particular point in time
61. Syntagm - A mutually exclusive grammatical form
62. Syntagmatic - Structural relationship between syntagms in a coherent and consistent way
63. Text - Composition of signs drawn from the domain of signs
64. Thirdness - Form of meaning derived from conventional rules, rules governing social/cultural interactions and practices.
65. Unlimited Semiosis - Where interpretation and production of signs oscillate back and forth