

## Glossary Assignment

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### Abstract:

This is a collection of terms used in semiotics and their definitions.

### Terms:

1. Biosphere - the regions of the surface, atmosphere, and hydrosphere of the earth (or analogous parts of other planets) occupied by living organisms.
2. Code - (1) a system of signs that people can select and combine in specific ways to construct messages, carry out actions, enact rituals and so on; (2) the unconscious set of meanings that coalesce around certain sets of signs and sign systems
3. Conative Function - A function of language or, more generally, communication, that is focused on, and concerned with influencing the behaviour of, the addressee, and thus concerned with persuasion.
4. Conceptual Metaphor - the understanding of one idea, or conceptual domain, in terms of another
5. Conceptual Metonym - a thing or concept that is referred to by the name of something closely associated with that thing or concept
6. Connotation - the cultural or emotional definition of something
7. Context - objects or entities that surround a focal event
8. Conventional Sign - a word or symbol
9. Denotation - dictionary definition
10. Deconstruction - emphasizes the internal workings of language or conceptual systems, the relational quality of meaning, and the assumptions implicit in forms of expression

11. Diachronic - the development and evolution of something over time
12. Discursive Symbols - symbols that relate linearly to one another
13. Emotive Function - relates to the Addresser, one of Jakobson's six functions of language
14. Firstness - fundamental part of Peircean semiotics, a tendency to forge or interpret signs as simulations of something else
15. Haptics - the study of touching patterns during social interaction
16. Gesture - a form of non-verbal/non-vocal communication in which visible bodily actions communicate particular messages
17. Gesticulant - the gesture unit accompanying speech
18. Grammar - set of structural constraints on speakers' or writers' composition of clauses, phrases, and words
19. Hyperreality - is an inability of consciousness to distinguish reality from a simulation of reality, especially in technologically advanced postmodern societies.
20. Icon - a sign in which the signifier has a direct, simulative connection to its signified or referent
21. Image Schema - the term used by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson to refer to the recurring structures of, or in, our perceptual interactions, bodily experiences, and cognitive operations that portray locations, movements, shapes, and so on, in the mind
22. Interpretant - the process of adapting a sign's meaning to personal and social experiences
23. Index - a sign in which the signifier has an existential connection to its signified or referent (that is, the sign indicates that something "exists" somewhere in time or space)
24. Infinite Semiosis - signs are interpretants of signs and signs are interpretants of earlier signs and so on

25. Kinesics - the study of bodily semiosis
26. Langue - a language viewed as an abstract system used by a speech community, in contrast to the actual linguistic behavior of individuals.
27. Metalingual Function - a communicative function by which the code being used is identified
28. Modernism - Modernism was a cultural movement of the late 19th century to the mid-20th century. It changed art, literature, music, architecture and drama. Modernism rejected tradition. It was interested in new ways of doing old things
29. Myth - a story that aims to explain the origin of life or of the universe in terms of some metaphysical or deistic entity or entities
30. Narrative - something told or written, such as an account, story, or tale
31. Natural Sign - a sign that is produced by nature (such as a symptom)
32. Oculistics - subcategory of kinesics, the study of eye movements
33. Object - what a sign refers to
34. Paradigm - a typical example or pattern of something, a model
35. Paradigmatic - a structural relation between signs that keeps them distinct and therefore recognizable
36. Parole - the actual linguistic behavior or performance of individuals, in contrast to the linguistic system of a community.
37. Phatic Function - a communicative function by which contact between addresser and addressee is established
38. Poetic Function - a communicative function based on poetic language

39. Postmodernism - the world view that all knowledge is relative and human-made , and that there is no purpose to life beyond the immediate and the present
40. Poststructuralism - a movement in semiotics countering the structuralist notion that signs encode some aspect of reality
41. Presentational Symbols - they participate in, or are similar to, the thing they symbolize
42. Proxemics - a branch of semiotics and anthropology that studies the symbolic structure of the physical space maintained between people
43. Referential Function - a communicative act in which there is a straightforward connection between the act and what it refers to
44. Representamen - in Peircean theory, the physical part of a sign
45. Representation - the process by which referents are captured and organized in some way by signs or texts
46. Secondness - in Peircean theory, the second level of meaning derived from relating signs to each other or to other elements (including sign-makers and sign-users)
47. Semiotics - the science that studies signs and their uses in representation
48. Semiosphere - the world of signs, codes, and texts to be differentiated from the biosphere (the physical life-supporting environment)
49. Semiosis - the comprehension and production of signs
50. Signifying Order - the structural levels of signification, meaning or representation in semiotics
51. Sign - something that stands for something else
52. Sign (Peirce) - the actual physical sign, the thing to which it refers, and the interpretation that it elicits in real-world situations

53. Sign (Saussure) - the signifier (the physical part of the sign) and the signified (the concept the sign elicits)
54. Signal - an emission or movement that naturally or conventionally triggers some reaction on the part of a receiver
55. Signified - that part of a sign that is referred to
56. Signifier - that part of a sign that does the referring, the physical part of the sign
57. Structuralism - the study of the structures (signs, texts, codes) generated by semiosis
58. Symbol - a sign that represents a referent through cultural convention
59. Symptom - a bodily sign that stands for some ailment, physical condition, or disease
60. Synchronic - the study of signs at a specific point in time (usually the present)
61. Syntagm - a linguistic unit consisting of a set of linguistic forms (phonemes, words, or phrases) that are in a sequential relationship to one another.
62. Syntagmatic - a structural relation that guides the combination of signs or parts of signs in a coherent and consistent way
63. Text - a “larger sign” put together in terms of a specific code
64. Thirdness - in Peircean theory, the third level of meaning derived from symbolic processes
65. Unlimited Semiosis - The term coined by Eco to refer to the way in which, for Peirce (via the interpretant), for Barthes (via connotation), for Derrida (via freeplay), and for Lacan (via 'the sliding signified'; see slippage of meaning), the signified is endlessly commutable—functioning in its turn as a signifier for a further signified.