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Introduction to Linguistics

Fall 2024

Summer Reading Project

For this summer reading project, you are expected to read Evans (2017) in its entirety. This is a rather interesting little text exploring the nature of language by delving into emojis, those often cute little images we pepper our on-line communication with these days. The idea of looking at emojis is not only topical but also quite interesting and relevant. It is interesting and relevant in that emojis clearly show the symbolic relationship between the world itself and our own thoughts and interpretations of that world as encapsulated in forms. The book is rather short and simple and actually kind of fun to read. So, enjoy this little treatise on emojis as part of language, maybe.

Evans, V. (2017). *The emoji code*. New York: Picador.

After reading this interesting book I want you to write up a short paper explaining your view on one of the issues raised in the book. Pick one of those issues and using your own experience as well as the arguments in the book to explain your beliefs.

Maybe it will be helpful for you to focus your assignment as an answer to this question:

Are emojis a form of language, how so or how not so?

Your write up should be approximately 1,500 words (A4, 1.5 spaced) and follow APA format regarding any quotes or citations. Citations and quotes from outside sources are not necessary for this paper but are always welcome if you want to take it further. There have been many scholarly papers written on this topic of late so you will not have trouble finding outside sources if that is the way you want to take this.

This write-up is due the second week of class on September 9th.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.