Notes for Lecture 11A: Language, Culture and Cognition

1. Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis / Linguistic relativism:
   Does language determine our world view?
   Language, World, Thought

2. Linguistic differences to test the Whorf Hypothesis:
   (a) Classifiers and categorization (Chinese/Japanese vs. English)
   (b) Vocabulary
   (c) Word order
   (d) Grammar (tense, inflections)
   (e) Mood & evidentiality
   (f) Color terms
   (g) Language and Space

3. Language and Space—
   (a) Frames of reference:
      Relative: English, Dutch
      Absolute: Tzeltal
      Intrinsic
   (b) Stephen Levinson’s experiment

Notes for Lecture 11B: Language Acquisition

1. UG
2. innateness hypothesis
4. Critical period
5. Theories of acquisition
   A. Imitation theory
   B. Reinforcement theory
   C. Active construction of a grammar