Notes:

- Webpage with assignments, book chapters, etc., is still at my website: http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/322
- Assignment 2 (due Thursday the 25th) is now up
- Final paper: Due Thursday April 26 (not April 24th!)

Review: Two kinds of ‘words’

- There are minimal units of meaning that aren’t ‘words’
- There are words that aren’t minimal units of meaning
- Solution: distinguish between phonological words and semantic words, a.k.a. listemes.
- (‘Symbol’ is too broad a term — designates red lights and restroom signs as well as linguistic symbols)
- We’ll study both types of item in this course!

Summary

- Minimal unit of meaning: listeme
- Examples:
  - swim and -ing in I’m swimming,
  - cat in I like this cat,
  - let the cat out of the bag in Whatever you do, don’t let the cat out of the bag!
  - run the gamut in The blog comments ran the gamut from amazingly stupid to brilliant
  - get X’s goat in Mary really knows how to get my goat.
Summary, Cont

- Independent unit of speech: phonological word
- Examples:
  - swimming in I'm swimming,
  - cat in I like this cat,
  - you, cat, out and bag in Whatever you do, don't let the cat out of the bag!
  - run and gamut in The blog comments ran the gamut from amazingly stupid to brilliant,
  - get, knows and goat in Mary really knows how to get my goat.

Why 'listeme'?

- These constitute the minimal list of arbitrary sound-meaning connections that a speaker of a given language must memorize
- This is the list that makes learning a second language so hard; you have to spend hours memorizing it.
- Any sound-meaning connections bigger than a listeme can be calculated using the regular rules of interpretation

The anatomy of a listeme

Pronunciation: /najs/  
Morphology: nicer, nicest  
Style: Not literary  

Meaning: 'nice'  
Spelling: N-I-C-E  
History: Latin ni-scire 'not-know' > nescius 'stupid, foolish' > French nice  
Syntac: → Old English: 'stupid' > 'wanton' > 'lazy' > 'weak' > 'delicate' > 'fastidious' > 'refined' > 'appetizing' > 'nice'
Some practice

- My car’s transmission is broken.
- I received a transmission from Houston.
- I couldn’t get my head around it.
- Writers are frequently hypersensitive
- Calipers are used to measure body fat.

You should understand:

- What the difference is between a ‘phonological word’ and a ‘listeme’
- Why we have to distinguish them
- Two or three examples of phonological words that aren’t listemes
- Two or three examples of listemes that aren’t phonological words
- That meaning is created both by listemes themselves and by the rules for combining them