

Acquisition

Learning

implicit,
subconscious

explicit, conscious

informal situations

formal situations

uses grammatical
'feel'

uses grammatical
rules

depends on
attitude

depends on
aptitude

stable order of
acquisition

simple to complex
order of learning

What is the difference between language acquisition and language learning.

Some people use the term of language acquisition for all the phases that lead to language fluency, including learning to read and write. Others use the term of language learning even for babies and very young, pre school children. - But there is a fundamental difference between these two terms

Children acquire language through a subconscious process during which they are unaware of grammatical rules. This happens especially when they acquire their first language. They repeat what is said to them and get a feel for what is and what is not correct. In order to acquire a language, they need a source of natural communication, which is usually the mother, the father, or the caregiver. Children who grow up with multiple languages, will acquire these languages in the most natural way. They will repeat what they hear, try out sound choices about what they hear, try out sound choices about what they hear, try out sound choices about what they hear until they make sense (i.e. they will understand their meaning) and they will use them purposefully in their communication. - Some distinguish infant language acquisition - as defining the process of acquiring the first language from second

and in addition to speech, includes also reading and writing

- * Language acquisition refers to the process whereby an individual learns to understand, speak and interpret signs, sign, read and/or write
- * Language acquisition crucially involves change over time towards a state of language knowledge and use that is more extended -
exposed in "language development", a term usually reserved for children's language learning process in early childhood, that is under age of 6.

Language learning, on the other hand, is the result of direct instruction in the rules of language. Language learning is not an age-appropriate activity for very young children as learning presupposes that learners have a conscious knowledge of the new language and can talk about that knowledge. They usually have a basic knowledge of grammar, which we learn a language we have a deductive approach to the intonation, phonology, morphology, syntax, syntax of the target language. This happens when we start being schooled in this language, when we learn to read and write. Reading and writing is not intuitive. We need to learn that signs (letters and letters)

, have a meaning that conveys our thoughts. We learn that there are rules for each language, concerning the position of the words in a sentence, that intonation can vary and change the meaning of a word and a sentence, that one word can have many different meanings, depending on the context.

Acquisition

- unconscious process
- does not presuppose teaching
- the child controls the pace

Learning

- intentional process
- presupposes teaching
- the teacher controls the pace.