

## 1.7 Exercises and questions

1. Using the *game analogy*,
  - a. what is the *de Saussurian* concept for an individual game that is played?  
**parole**
  - b. what is the Chomskyan term for the rules of the game?  
**competence**
  - c. what would the term *parole* correspond with?  
**performance**
2. Language is both systematic and creative.
  - a. Which terms underlie its systematic nature in speakers of that language?  
**grammar, rule-governed nature of language**
  - b. Illustrate in what way language is creative.  
**We can say things that have never been said before (poetry, new metaphors, etc.)**
3. If you see a book with the title *English Grammar for Foreign Language Learners* what type of grammar would you expect?  
**prescriptive grammar**
4. Which approach to the study of language do you expect from the following book titles:
  - a. *African-American Vernacular English: developments since the Second World War*  
**diachronic / descriptive**
  - b. *The Language of Gaming Chat Rooms*  
**synchronic / descriptive**
  - c. *English from Beowulf to the Canterbury Tales*  
**diachronic / descriptive**
  - d. *Accents and Speech Styles of Beatles Songs from 1962 till 1970.*  
**diachronic / descriptive**
5. What can you say about these utterances?
  - a. did he go yet?  
**ungrammatical in Standard British English/  
grammatical in American English**
  - b. has he goed yet?  
**overgeneralisation in child or leaner language, but rule-governed**
  - c. he gone yet?  
**ungrammatical in Standard British English/  
grammatical in African-American Vernacular English**
6. In the following identify what kinds of language you are dealing with and what the cues are that tell you this.
  - a. ... The soil tends to be warmer which promotes root growth, and — unlike with spring planting — there's not the potential of a long, hot, dry summer facing the young upstarts.  
**gardening language**
  - b. Turn the idle speed adjuster screw next to the throttle cam with a flat head screwdriver until the engine idles smoothly without stumbling at the lowest possible engine revolutions per minute. Turn the screw clockwise to reduce idle speed and counterclockwise to increase idle speed.  
**engine maintenance, instruction manual (imperatives!)**

- c. ... the knight's unique, non-straight pattern of movement creates two advantages: it allows a knight to attack other **pieces** without fear of being captured by them; and it enables a knight to make jumps and deliver threats that are surprising to the eye and so are easy to overlook.

**chess instruction text**

- d. Play the Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy **soundtrack** and the **NAD** glides through the elegant and mournful music with a **good attention** to detail. Play the track Esterhase, and each note is **delivered** with **precision** and **subtlety**.

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<http://www.thedailygreen.com/living-green/blogs/save-money/fall-gardening-tips-1011>

[http://www.ehow.com/how\\_4577352\\_tune-motorcycle-carburetor.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_4577352_tune-motorcycle-carburetor.html)

<http://www.chesstactics.org/index.php?Type=page&Action=none&From=2,1,1,1>

<http://www.whathifi.com/review/nad-c546bee>