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a. definition of language and language competence

- (1) language is a communication tool
- (2) language is used to convey information from one individual to another
- (3) the purpose of this information is to cause a desired change within the environment
- (4) communication competence can be defined as the extent to which an individual can both comprehend and convey information
- (5) communication competence can be measured through examination of the number of contexts (both physical and interpersonal), modalities, languages, topics, tasks, conversational repair strategies and languages that an individual can understand and convey communicative intent