

Lesson Two : Language Shift -Language Death, Linguistic genocide

Aims and Objectives

Aims:

1. To safeguard and preserve the linguistic and cultural heritage of a community or group, recognizing the intrinsic value of languages as carriers of unique worldviews, traditions, and histories.
2. To promote and maintain linguistic diversity as a fundamental aspect of human cultural richness, acknowledging that each language reflects a distinct way of perceiving and interacting with the world.
3. To reinforce the sense of identity and belonging within linguistic communities, fostering pride in one's language and culture.
4. To ensure the continuity of cultural practices, stories, oral traditions, and knowledge systems that are passed down through language.
5. To advocate for the human rights of linguistic minorities, including their right to use, learn, and teach their native languages without discrimination or coercion.
6. To facilitate the transmission of languages from one generation to the next, creating environments where children can learn and use their ancestral languages.

Objectives:

1. To document endangered languages through linguistic research, including phonetic, grammatical, and lexical descriptions, to create valuable resources for language revitalization efforts.
2. To develop and implement language revitalization programs that encompass language education, curriculum development, and community engagement.
3. To promote bilingualism or multilingualism, allowing speakers to maintain their native language while acquiring proficiency in a dominant or majority language.
4. To integrate language and cultural education in school curricula, ensuring that students learn about their heritage and linguistic traditions.
5. To empower linguistic communities to take an active role in language revitalization efforts, involving community members in decision-making processes.
6. To advocate for and enact language protection legislation and policies that support the rights of linguistic minorities and promote linguistic diversity.
7. To use media, technology, and digital resources to create content and platforms in endangered languages, making them accessible to a wider audience.
8. To raise awareness about language shift, language death, and linguistic genocide, and to advocate for the importance of linguistic diversity on a global scale.
9. To encourage collaboration among linguists, educators, policymakers, and community leaders to develop effective strategies for language revitalization.

