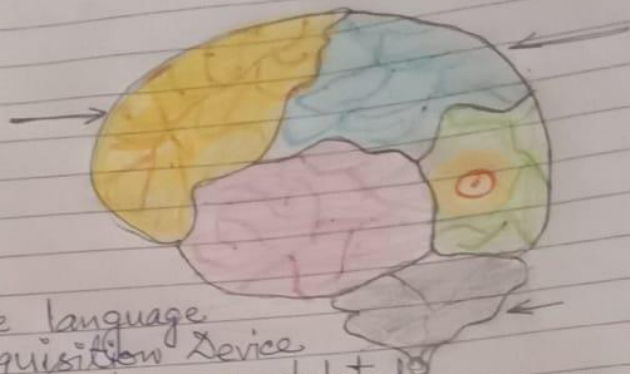


## THE "LAD" (Chomsky, 1965)



The language acquisition device (LAD) is a postulated organ of brain that is supposed to function as a congenital device for learning symbolic language. (i.e. - language acquisition).

## Universal Grammar

⇒ Universal Grammar is a linguistic theory developed by Noam Chomsky according to which all human languages are constructed on the same, abstract template, and that this explains why all normal speakers acquire their native language quickly and accurately.

⇒ all the languages have similar grammatical concepts with slight differences.

⇒ The set of rules that is thought to be able to describe all languages.

## What is meant by Language Acquisition?

- Human Acquisition of ability to use language rapidly by exploiting the words, sounds, phrases and grammatical norms.
- The capacity to successfully use language requires great command over rules, sounds, Morphology, structure and extensive vocabulary.
- There are basically three point of view (Theories about language acquisition.)

1. Cognitive Theory By Naom Chomsky
2. Social-Interaction Theory by LEV VYGOSTSKY
3. Behaviorist Theory by SKINNER

## COGNITIVE THEORY BY NAOM CHOMSKY

- Given by NAOM in 1960s
- Followed mentalist approach based upon Cognitive learning (The way by which we relate new things, events or, items of knowledge, to concepts already in mind)
- By Mentalism we means something related to mind and thought process.
- This theory neglects or somehow neglects Social or, Behavioral aspects of language and

and focuses on human mind and natural capacity of human mind to learn and acquire a language.

- Language acquisition is an innate process.
- This theory discusses the path through which language is learnt.
- This theory discusses the Mental grammar (Universal grammar) in detail.
- Universal or Mental grammar means child is born with natural ability to work out the underlying system to the jumble of sounds and words he hears.
- Chomsky says that language is so complex and this becomes possible for a child, because of having innate ability to learn it.
- Language acquisition device

Special area of brain whose only function is to process language and is separate from any other mental capacity the child has.