

THE DIVERSITY OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Despite the term ‘applied linguistics’ falls into science of language, which is a complex science already, the full spectrum of its possible definitions and connotations includes the volume and the depth of specialization much deeper in many kinds of its fields.

It is worth noticing at least one of many approaches existing in topic-related literature, which unfolds a range of synonymous definitions (like ‘computer linguistics’, ‘computational linguistics’, ‘automatic linguistics’, and ‘engineering linguistics’), to see how the vast diversity of science of language is transmitted into the computational field, where it equally connects with serious engineering and computer disciplines, at bottom, serving as solving means of the new special linguistic problems. Besides, considering an occidental specificity of understanding the term ‘applied linguistics’ also adds language acquisition theory and translation theory to the above-mentioned aspects.

To all intents and purposes, applied linguistics as an academic specialty has to contain at least two areas: linguistics itself and computer engineering; moreover, the depth of mastering the course material cannot be reduced in any of the fields due to the specificity of tasks to be solved by its means.

Consider the main tasks and approaches in applied linguistics:

- dictionary and thesaurus making
- terminology standartization
- machine translation
- speech recognition
- text to speech
- data mining
- text processing and annotation
- text analysis
- text and data classification and clusterization
- data retrieval
- synthetic language creation
- transcription and transliteration
- translation theory
- language acquisition theory
- speech culture
- stylistics

As reflected by the list above, the range of problems applied linguistics is dealing with is a synthesis of a complex combination of different specialized fields from science of language and semiotics to computer engineering and digital signal processing, while applicable scope of its methods, approaches and abilities covers practically all provinces of human activities one way or another related to semantic information.