

# Chapter 1.

## Language Functions in the Brain: From Auditory Input to Sentence Comprehension

Introduction

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# Language Comprehension

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- Linguistic theories generally assign these different information types to distinct subcomponents of language.

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- Speech, moreover, carries physical information concerning units larger than a single sound, such as words and phrases realized as stress/accenuation or intonation at a suprasegmental level. This is also considered part of phonology.

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- **Semantics** (语义学) as the next subcomponent deals with the meaning of words and word combinations.

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- This speed is necessary as an average speaker talks with a speech rate of about 300 syllables per minute, that is 1 syllable in 200 milliseconds (ms), which is incredibly fast.

# Chapter Preview



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- Chapter 1 focuses on the core language system in the mature brain and describes the procedural way from auditory input up to language comprehension based on a neurocognitive model that defines the different subprocesses and its neural basis, both with respect to where in the brain these subprocesses take place and what their temporal relation is.