**Course Summary**

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**Kinds of Meaning**

Meaning can be either semantic (literal) or pragmatic ( implied or intended).

The semantic meaning of a word or an expression is the one conventionally defined by dictionaries, while the pragmatic meaning is the extra meaning conveyed and not assimilated in dictionaries.

For instance, the word *statesman* literary means a politician, but it implies a more respectable and high-stakes person, while *politician* not only denotes someone who practices politics but it can also suggest that the guy is dishonest and not trustworthy.

Similarly, the dictionary meaning of *Muslim* is someone who embraces Islam. In the West, however, the word *Muslim* implies terrorism and extremism, all this because the stereotypes and negative images western media has been ascribing to Islam.

**Sources of Meaning**

A word is one among many other sources of meaning, i.e., it is not only the word which is involved in the making of meaning.

Meaning can reside in the physical context or in the prior knowledge that is shared by individuals. If the teacher asks *Can you write it?*, offering a marker, the student understands that he has to write somrthing on the board and not on the copybook thanks to the elements found in the physical context

إذا قال الأستاذ لأحد الطلبة "أكتبها' رافعا قلم السبورة بيده سيستنتج الطالب أن عليه كتابة شيء ما على السبورة و ليس على الكراس من خلال اللجوء إلى الوضع في تفسير المعنى

words

prior knowledge

Meaning

Physical context

Co-text

We can use facial expressions and say you are so clever to mean completely the opposite.

We can also exploit the use of words to create and imply something that is not said. For instance, because the verb *crawl يحبو* normally goes with the subject *baby, the expression the boat crawls on sea* implies that the boat is slow, and this not mentioned directly.

**Semantics and Sense Relations**

Semantics has to do with sense of the word as defined in the dictionary.

A Word gets defined through another word

نتعرف على معاني الكلمات بالارتكاز على كلمات مرجعية

A word is defined through its relations with other words as follows:

Its synonym: e.g. *Wide means broad or large*

Its antonym: e.g. *Frost is a thin layer of ice*

*Sedge is a thin layer of grass*

Its general noun (hyponyms): e.g. *An elk is a member of the deer family*