## CONTENTS

PREFACE

xiii

## SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Developmental Changes During the Language Acquisition Period

Language and Thinking

Linguistic Descriptions Syntactic information Semantic information Phonological information

Psycholinguistic Descriptions

Application of Descriptive Models to Language Development 1

8

3

15 17

> 20 20

22

25

	viii Contents
	Am Comens
	2
	4
	THE INFANT'S CAPACITY TO ACQUIRE
27	LANGUAGE
27	LANGUAGE
30	Man's Brain
38	Peripheral Mechanisms
45	The vocal mechanism
47	The auditory and vocal mechanism
50	Summary
	3
	3
	THE ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
53	PHONOLOGY
33	monoro
54	From Babbling to Language
56	Supra-segmental features
64	Segmental features
69	Development of Phonology
70	Segmental features
82	Phonological rules
88	Summary
	4
	•
92	THE ACQUISITION OF SYNTAX
94	First Sentences
00	Development of Madiff. 11
99	Development of Modification
	Acquisition of Structures and Transformational
103	Operations
	•

Contents ix	
Expansion of Base Structure Rules	109
Factors Affecting Sequence of Acquisition	114
Factors Affecting Acquisition of Rules	116
Summary	122
5	
THE DEVELOPMENT OF SYNTAX	125
Linguistic Rules	128
Development of Base Structure Context-Sensitive Rules	135
Transformational Rules	139
Syntactic Competence	147
Summary	159
6	
THE ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SEMANTICS	162
Processes in the Acquisition of the Meaningfulness of the Speech Signal	166
Acquisition of the Meaning of Lexical Items	171
The Development of Dictionary Meanings	176
Comprehension of Relationships in Sentences	182
Summary	194
The second of th	L

	7	
198	DEVIANT LANGUAGE BEHAVIOR	
200	Descriptions of Deviant Linguistic Behavior	
203	Deviant Language Behavior Resulting from Kno Causes	
208	Deviant Language Behavior Resulting from Unknown Causes	
216	Summary	
	8	
217	DIALECT VARIATIONS	
219	Description of the Population	
220	Studies of Structural Differences	
226	Comparative Studies	
235	Use of Language	
243	Summary	
	9	
246	EXPLANATORY THEORIES	
248	Why is Language Acquired?	
253	How is Language Acquired?	

What is Acquired?

Contents xi	7
APPENDIX A	
Glossary of Terms	261
APPENDIX B	
Key to Phonological Symbols	264
BIBLIOGRAPHY	267
INDEX	280