



**DIKTISAINTEK
BERDAMPAK**

MATA KULIAH

INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS



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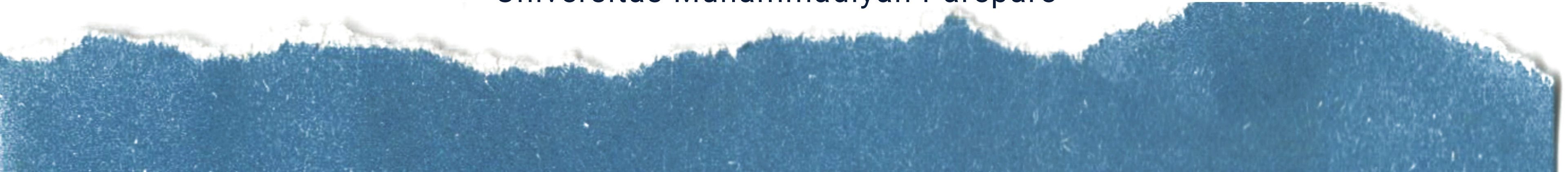


DEFINITIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE

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THERE ARE FOUR MAIN POINTS, NAMELY:

- 1 Definition of Linguistics
- 2 Scientific Features of Linguistics
- 3 Definitions of Language
- 4 Defining Characteristics of Language

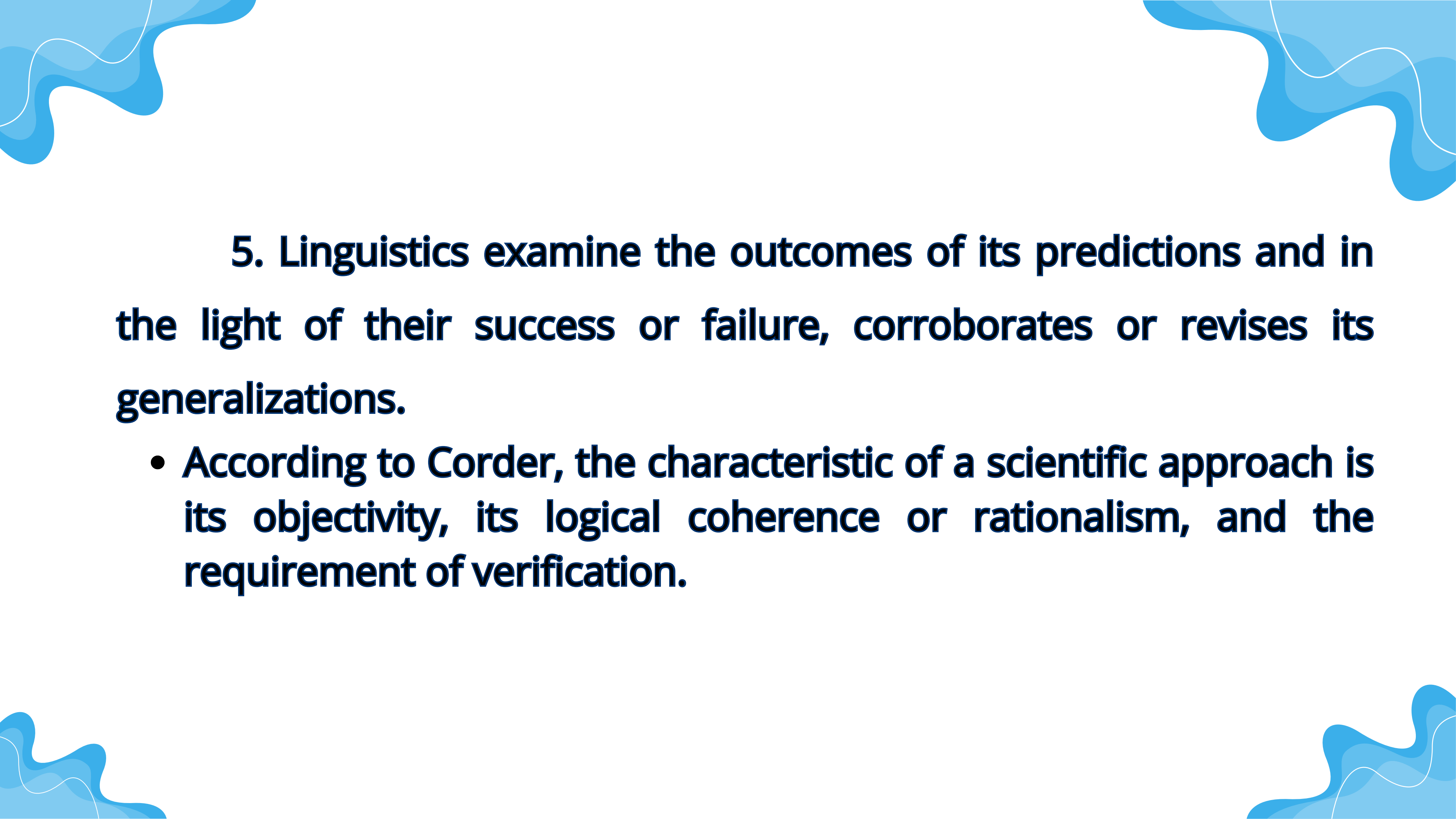
A. DEFINITION OF LINGUISTICS

- **Linguistics has been defined by many Linguists.**
- **Wardough, linguistics is the scientific study of language.**
- **Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines linguistics as the science of language, e.g. of its structure, acquisition, relationship to other forms of communication.**
- **Lado states that linguistics is the science that describes and classifies languages.**
- **Hartman and Stock Stated linguistics is the field of study the subject of which is language.**

- **Francis defines linguistics as the scientific study of language.**
- **The scientific approach to language means that its investigations through observations that can be proved empirically with reference to the general theory of language structure.**
- **Linguistics studies any language – its structure, uses, and relations to other languages.**
- **Linguistics also studies how develops into dialects, and studies how that language changes from period to period.**

B. SCIENTIFIC FEATURES OF LINGUISTICS

- **Fundamentally, the field is concerned with the nature of language and communication.**
- **According to Francis, linguistics as the scientific study of language must conform to the following requirements:**
 - 1. Linguistics must have a subject-matter.**
 - 2. Linguistics produce careful objective descriptions.**
 - 3. Linguistics make generalizations.**
 - 4. Linguistics make predictions.**



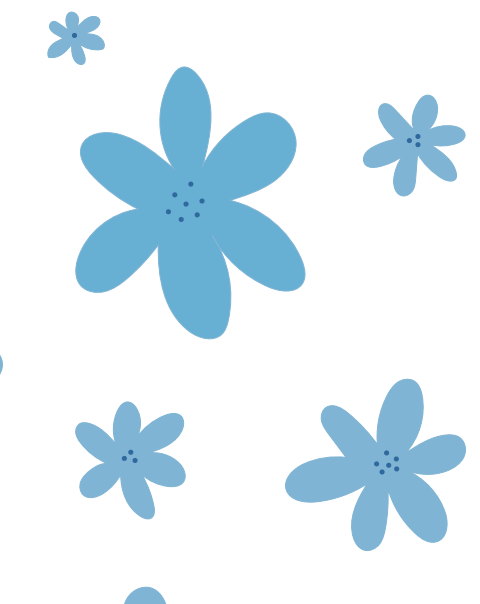
5. Linguistics examine the outcomes of its predictions and in the light of their success or failure, corroborates or revises its generalizations.

- According to Corder, the characteristic of a scientific approach is its objectivity, its logical coherence or rationalism, and the requirement of verification.**



Walter A. Cook states that the scientific method, that is, the inductive method, consists of four steps:

- 1. Observation of the data**
- 2. Insight into the structure of the data**
- 3. Formulation of a hypothesis**
- 4. Verification of the hypothesis**



C. DEFINITIONS OF LANGUAGE

1. Language has been defined by many linguists.

- W.N. Francis defines language as an arbitrary system of articulated sounds made use of by a group of humans as a means of carrying on the affairs of their society.**

- **Finocchiaro, language is a system of arbitrary, vocal symbol permits all people in a given culture, or other people who have learned the system of that culture, to communicate or to interact.**
- **Pei and Gaynor, state that language is a system of communication by sound, i.e., through the organs of speech and hearing, among human beings of a certain group or community, using vocal symbols possessing arbitrary conventional meanings.**

- **Wardaugh defines language as a system of vocal symbols used for human communication.**
- **Greene Stated language is the set of all possible sentences; and the grammar of a language is the rules which distinguish between sentences and non-sentences.**

- **Chomsky, defines language as a set (finite or infinite) of sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements.**
- **A. A. Hill, describes language as the primary and most highly elaborated form of human symbolic activity.**

Charles F. Hockett, a language is a complex system of habits. This system can be broken down into five principal subsystems;

- 1. The Grammatical system**
- 2. The Phonological system**
- 3. The Morphophonemic system**
- 4. The Semantic system**
- 5. The Phonetic system**

D. DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS OF LANGUAGE

- **Language is a set of sounds**
- **Language is arbitrary**
- **Language is systematic**
- **Language is a set of symbols**
- **Language is complete**

E. CHARACTERISTICS OF LANGUAGE **(WARDHAUGH)**

- **System**
- **Arbitrary**
- **Vocal**
- **Symbol**
- **Human**
- **Communication**

INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT

- **Analyze definition of characteristics of language by using your own words in Bahasa Indonesia.**
- **Submit your assignment on available link.**
- **No cheating.**
- **Don't be identical answers.**

The image features a clean white background with decorative elements. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are illustrations of eucalyptus branches with green leaves and small blue berries. Centered above the text are two identical starburst graphics, each consisting of a light blue star with a red outline, surrounded by a cluster of small pink dots and two larger pink circles. The text "THANK YOU" is centered in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

THANK YOU