

### **What is language?**

1. Language is a means of cultural transmission.
2. Language is what people use to talk about things that are important to them.
3. Language is a set of sound and sentence patterns that express meaning.
4. Language is a set of rules through which humans can create and understand novel utterances, that have never before articulated or encountered.
5. Language is a means of interaction between and among people.
6. Language is a means for doing something - accomplishing a purpose.
7. Language is a vehicle for communicating meaning and messages.
8. Language is an instrument of power.
9. Language is a medium through which one can learn other things.
10. Language is holistic and is best understood through discourse and whole texts.

### **What should be the focus of language teaching?**

1. Works of literature, poetry, historical texts.
2. Everyday life, talking about family, daily routines, shopping, etc.
3. Fixed and semi-fixed sentence patterns, such as statements, questions, intonation, etc.
4. Rules of sentence construction related to permissible word combinations.
5. Interpersonal communication within a social context.
6. Functions, such as agreeing, proposing, expressing preferences.
7. Transactional language, especially lexical items.
8. Instrumental, such as finding a place to live, interviewing for a job, operating with society.
9. Content, such as geography, science, academia.
10. Learning about rhetorical and genre patterns, for example narrative and expository prose.