

Bonobos' Surprising Human-Like Syntax Unveiled

Description

Bonobos use different calls that combine to form phrases. This shows that this type of language is older than we thought. Humans use language to communicate, and one important part is syntax. This means putting words together to make longer sentences.

Even animals like chimpanzees can combine calls to warn each other. But only humans were believed to have the ability for true language with complex sentence structure. Scientists at the University of Zurich studied bonobos to see if they also have this ability.

By observing bonobos in the Congo, researchers found that bonobos use specific calls in combinations with distinct meanings. This suggests they have a form of syntax like humans. Although bonobos don't have full language like humans, they do have a complex way of communicating with each other. This discovery could change how we understand the evolution of language.

Vocabulary List:

1. Syntax /'sɪŋ.tæks/ (noun): The arrangement of words and phrases to create well-formed sentences in a language.

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- 2. Communicate /kəˈmju:.nɪ.keɪt/ (verb): To share or exchange information ideas or feelings.
- 3. **Observing** /əbˈzɜːrvɪŋ/ (verb): Watching carefully and attentively to gain information.
- 4. Suggests /sə'dʒɛsts/ (verb): Proposes or recommends an idea or plan for consideration.
- 5. Discovery /dɪs'kʌv.ər.i/ (noun): The act of finding or learning something for the first time.
- 6. **Evolution** /ˌiː.və'luː.ʃən/ (noun): The gradual development or change of something over time.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What do bonobos use to communicate with each other?

Option: Gestures

Option: Different calls

Option: Facial expressions Option: Written language



2. What do humans use to communicate, according to the text?

Option: Facial expressions

Option: Syntax
Option: Gestures
Option: Whistling

3. What is one important part of human language mentioned in the text?

Option: Written language

Option: Syntax
Option: Gestures

Option: Facial expressions

4. What were humans originally believed to be the only species capable of having?

Option: Complex sentence structure Option: Gestural communication

Option: Syntax

Option: Whistling skills

5. Where did researchers study bonobos to observe their communication abilities?

Option: Congo River

Option: Amazon Rainforest

Option: Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve Option: Serengeti National Park

6. What did researchers find bonobos use to convey distinct meanings?

Option: Gestures

Option: Different calls
Option: Facial expressions
Option: Written language

True-False

- 7. Bonobos in the Congo do not use any form of syntax in their communication.
- 8. Chimpanzees are not capable of combining calls to communicate warnings according to the text.
- 9. Humans have a more advanced form of language communication compared to bonobos.



- 10. Bonobos at Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve were studied by researchers from Harvard University.
- 11. The ability for complex sentence structures was originally believed to be unique to humans.
- 12. The study conducted by the University of Zurich could potentially change our understanding of bonobo communication.

Gap-Fill

13. Bonobos use specific calls in combinations with distinct meanings, suggesting they have a form of
syntax like
14. Although bonobos do not have full language like humans, they do have a complex way of
communicating with each other. This discovery could change how we understand the evolution of
15. By observing bonobos in the Congo, researchers found that bonobos use specific calls in combinations
with distinct meanings. This suggests they have a form of syntax like
16. Bonobos were studied to see if they have the ability for true language with
sentence structure like humans.
17. The use of syntax in bonobo communication was discovered by researchers from the University of
18. Bonobos combine calls to convey warnings, similar to behavior observed in

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Different calls 2. Syntax 4. Complex sentence structure 5. Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. True Gap-Fill: 13. humans 14. language 16. complex 17. Zurich 18. chimpanzees



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term used for a person officially charged with a crime?

Option: Defendant Option: Plaintiff Option: Witness Option: Judge

2. What is a conclusion reached after considering facts and evidence in a certain matter?

Option: Chance Option: Guess Option: Opinion Option: Verdict

ESL-NEWS.COM 3. What is a general term for a decline in mental ability?

Option: Memory

Option: Concentration Option: Intelligence Option: Cognition

4. Which term describes a medical condition characterized by excessive body fat?

Option: Anorexia Option: Malnutrition Option: Obesity Option: Sarcopenia

5. What is the term for a person who exposes misconduct alleged dishonest or illegal activity occurring within an organization?

Option: Collaborator Option: Conspirator Option: Whistleblower Option: Instigator

6. What is the principle of moral rightness based on ethics rationality law natural law religion fairness and equity?



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	Option: Vengeance
	Option: Bribery
	Option: Justice
	Option: Corruption
7.	What is the act of finding or learning something for the first time?
	Option: Concealment
	Option: Obscurity
	Option: Discovery
	Option: Secrecy
	What is the term for claiming or asserting that something is the case typically without providing evidence proof?
	Option: Proving
	Option: Admitting
	Option: Alleging
	Option: Confessing
9.	What is the term for publicly supporting or recommending a particular cause or policy?
	Option: Deterring
	Option: Advocating
	Option: Obstructing
	What is the term for publicly supporting or recommending a particular cause or policy? Option: Deterring Option: Advocating Option: Obstructing Option: Rejecting
10). What is the arrangement of words and phrases to create well-formed sentences in a language?
	Option: Context
	Option: Lexicon
	Option: Grammar
	Option: Syntax
G	ap-Fill(Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)
1:	L. In computer science a set of instructions that performs a specific task is called a
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12	2. If a person disagrees with a court decision they may file an to have the
de	ecision reviewed.



13. Prescribed drugs or substances used for medical treatment are commonly referred to as		
14. A government agency or body responsible for controlling and supervising a particular area of activity is		
known as a		
15. Challenges or hindrances that impede progress or achievement are often called		
16. The process of sharing or exchanging information through speech writing or other mediums is known as		
17. The evidence presented strongly that the suspect was at the scene of the crime.		
18. The gradual development or advancement of something over time is often referred to as		
19. To inspire motivate or support someone to do something positive is to them.		
20. Her upbringing greatly her beliefs and values as an adult.		
Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)		
21. The act of secretly obtaining information considered confidential or classified is known as espionage or .		
22. He pursued his goals never backing down from a challenge.		
23. The therapist focused on improving the patient's functions through various exercises.		
24. Sitting for prolonged periods without movement can lead to health issues caused by .		
25. Making false and damaging statements about someone's reputation is considered .		



- 26. Her for the environment led her to become an active conservationist.
- 27. The legal proceeding where the guilt or innocence of a defendant is determined is called a .
- 28. Exposure to certain chemicals can have effects on the human body.
- 29. Before using the new device make sure to read the manual carefully.
- 30. The organization is dedicated to for the rights of marginalized communities.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Defendant 2. Verdict 3. Cognition 4. Obesity 5. Whistleblower 6. Justice 7. Discovery 8. Alleging 9. Advocating 10. Syntax

Gap-Fill: 11. Program 12. Appeal 13. Medications 14. Regulator 15. Obstacles 16. Communicate 17.

Suggests 18. Evolution 19. Encourage 20. Influenced

Matching sentence: 1. Spying 2. Aggressively 3. Cognitive 4. Inactivity 5. Defamation 6. Concerns 7. Trial ESL-NEWS.

8. Harmful 9. Instructions 10. Advocating

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL2

Date Created 2025/04/08 **Author** aimeeyoung99