### The Mystery of Language

Body, Society, Space & History

Global Focus on Knowledge Lecture Series 04 Kenji Sato (Faculty of Letters)

# A tool which human beings as an animal first obtained

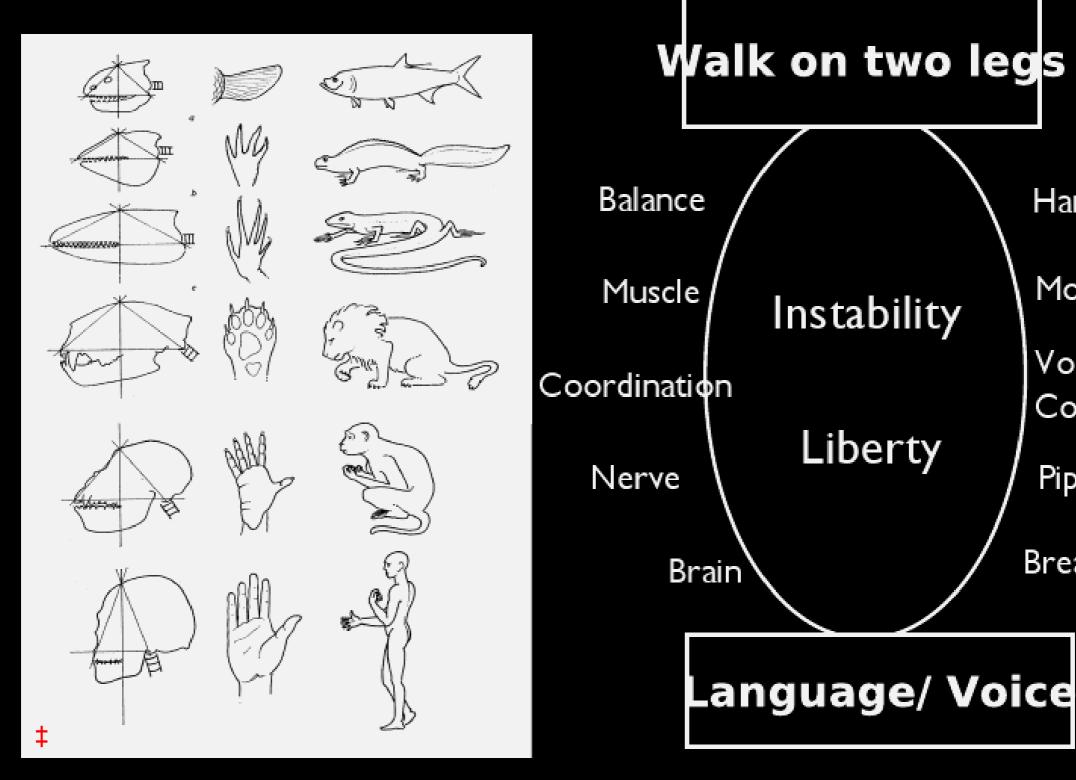
## A mysterious tool with intangible

possibilities...

Phase 1

#### It is a Body

#### Leroi-Gourhan Le Geste et le Parole



Hand

Mouth

Vocal

Cords

Pipe

Breath

André Leroi-Gourhan, Gesture and Speech

#### The voice is a kind of music which plays the body as an musical instrument

#### What kind of tool is the voice?

Material Phenomenon

## Language is an extra Hand

# It grabs and moves intangible, invisible objects

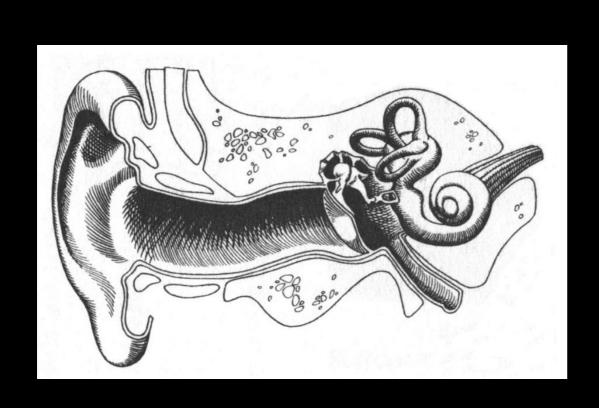
#### Phase 2

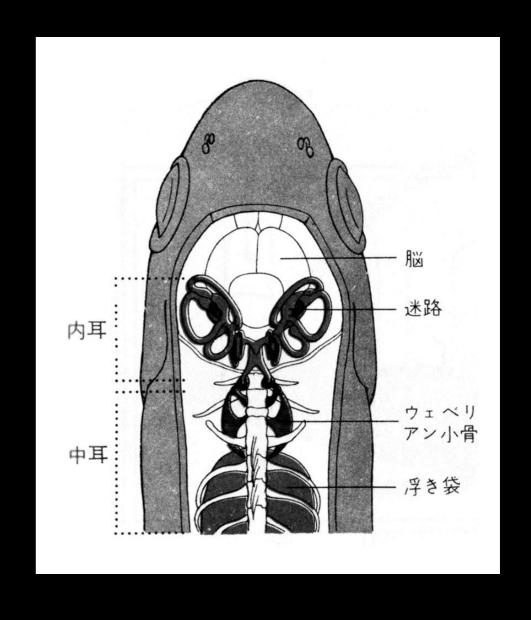
#### It is a Society

### Why is language understood?

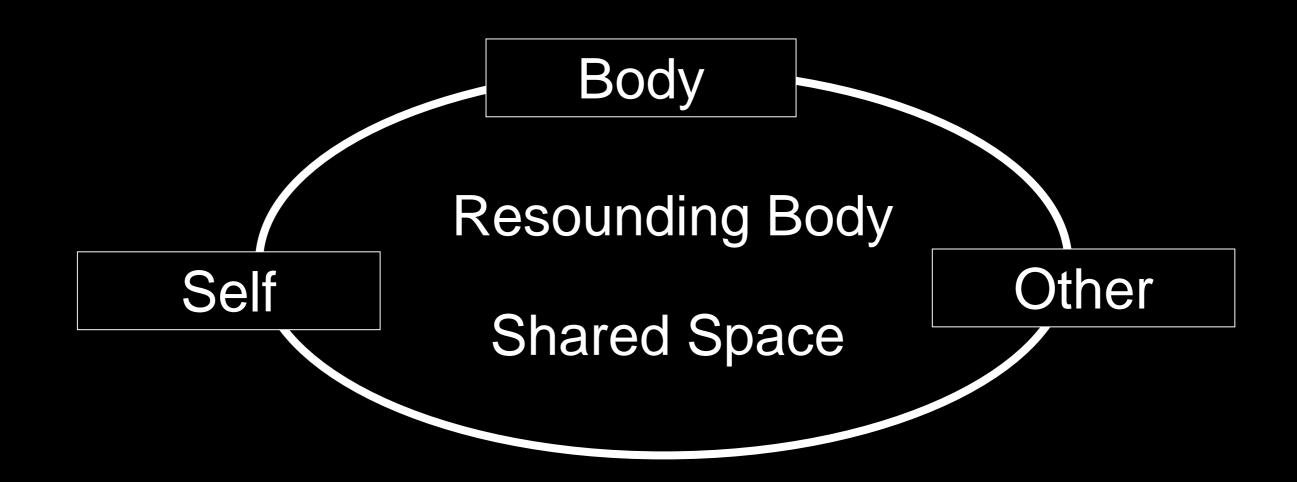
### Shared meanings? Acquired Language?

#### Ears receive voice

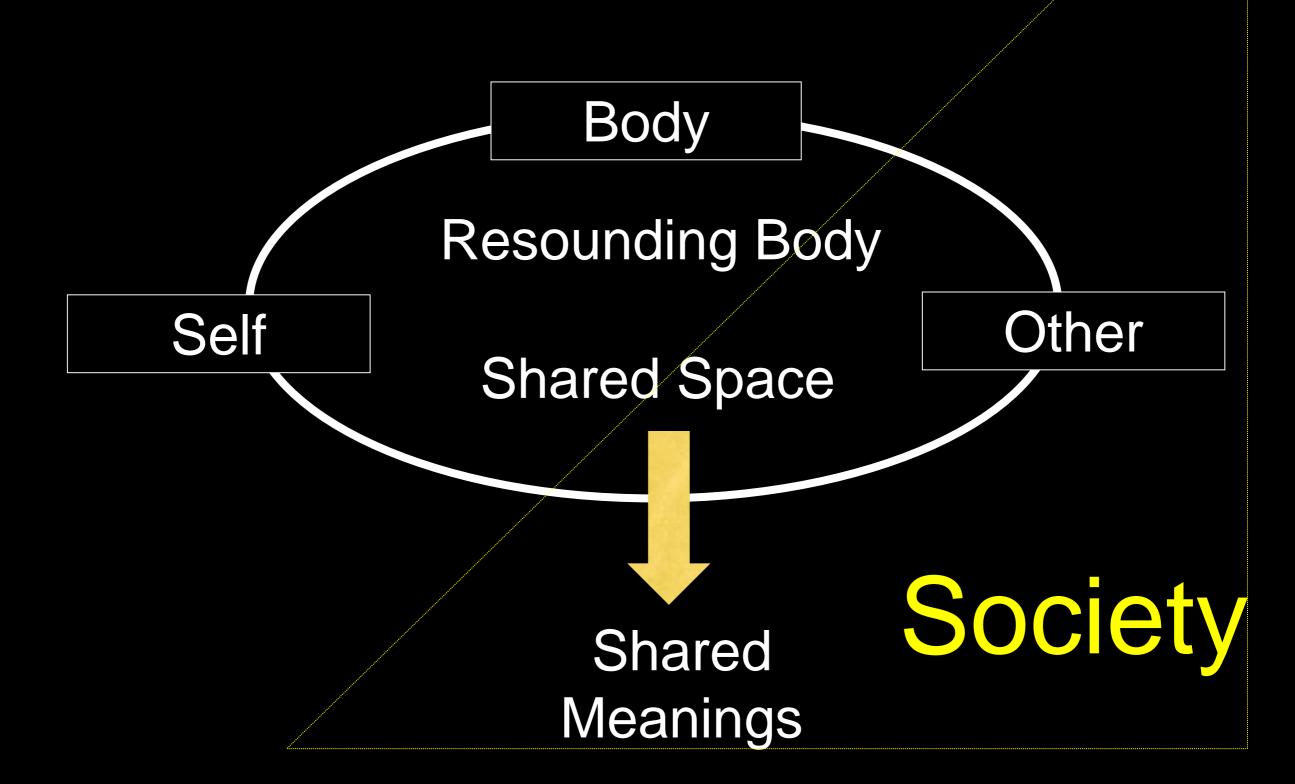




#### Mechanism of Voice

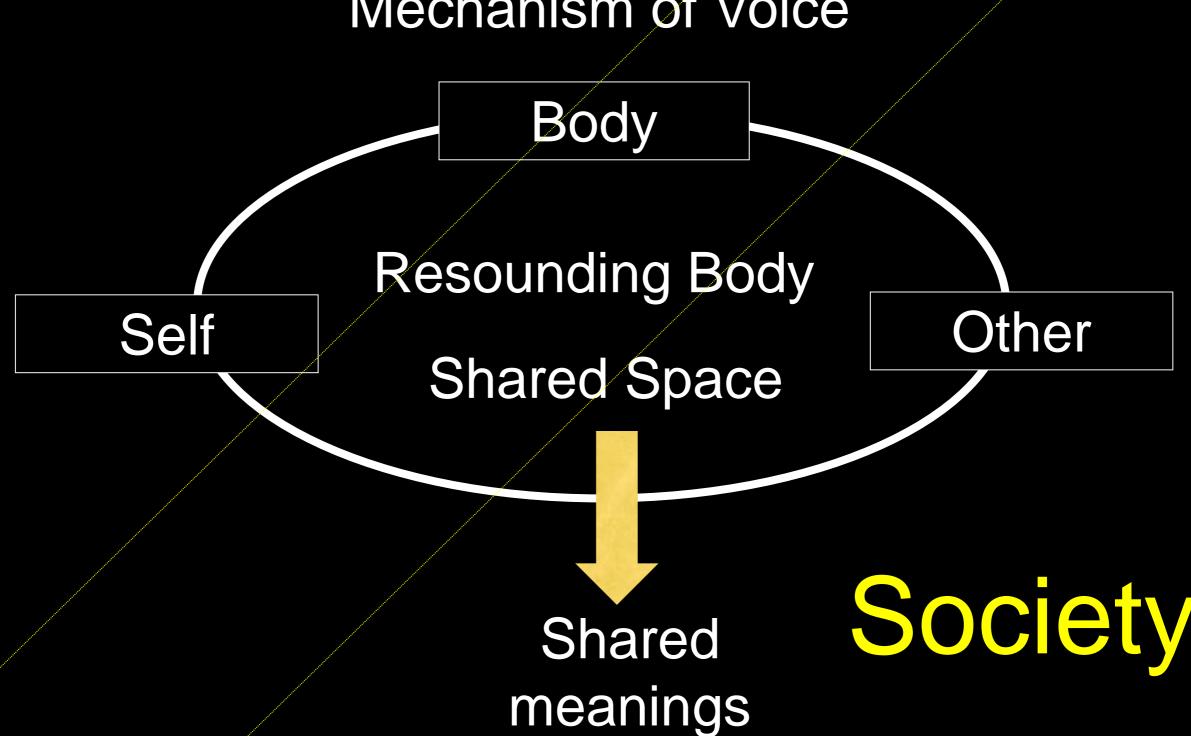


#### Mechanism of Voice



#### Individual

Mechanism of Voice



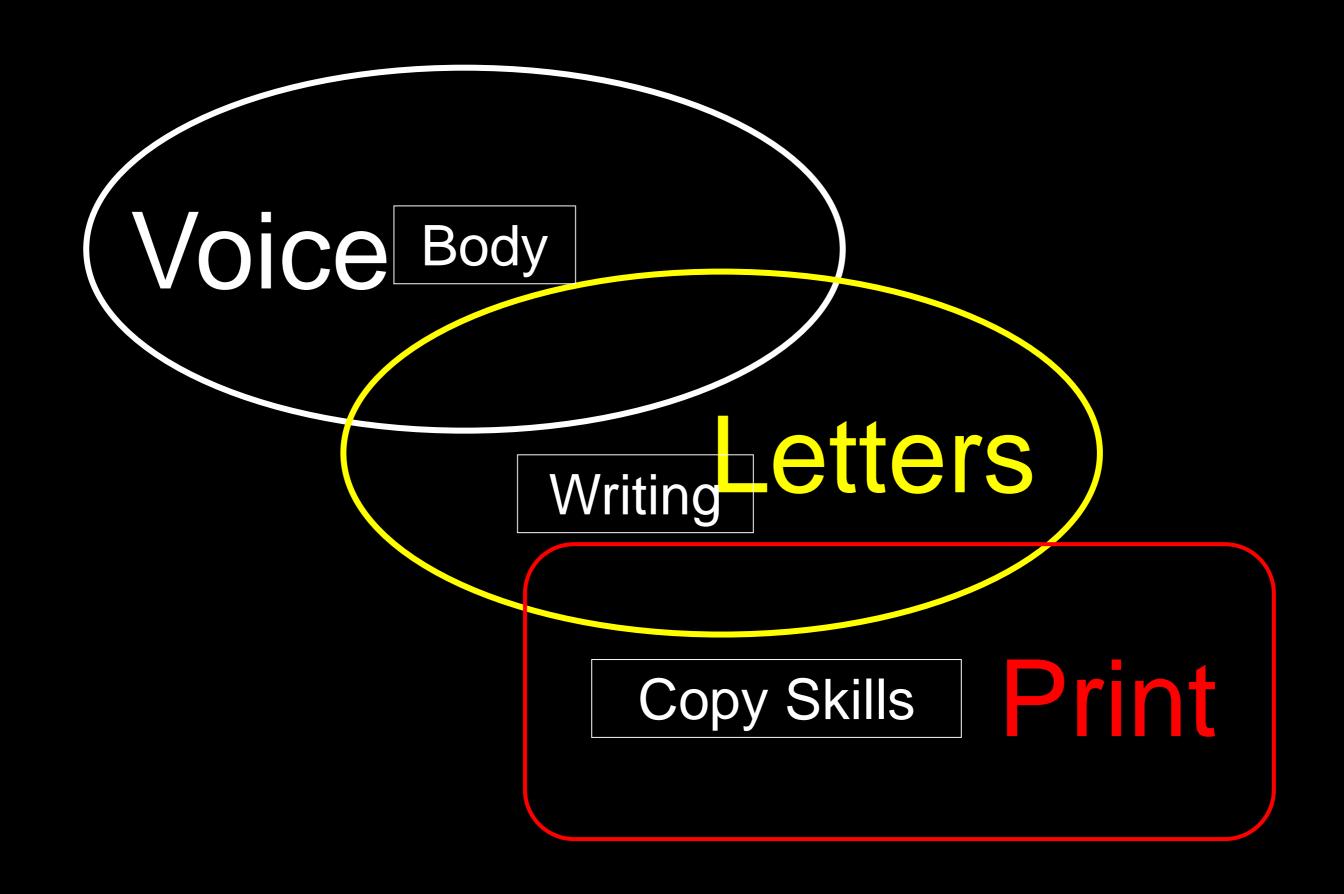
<Tool for Communication> <Public>

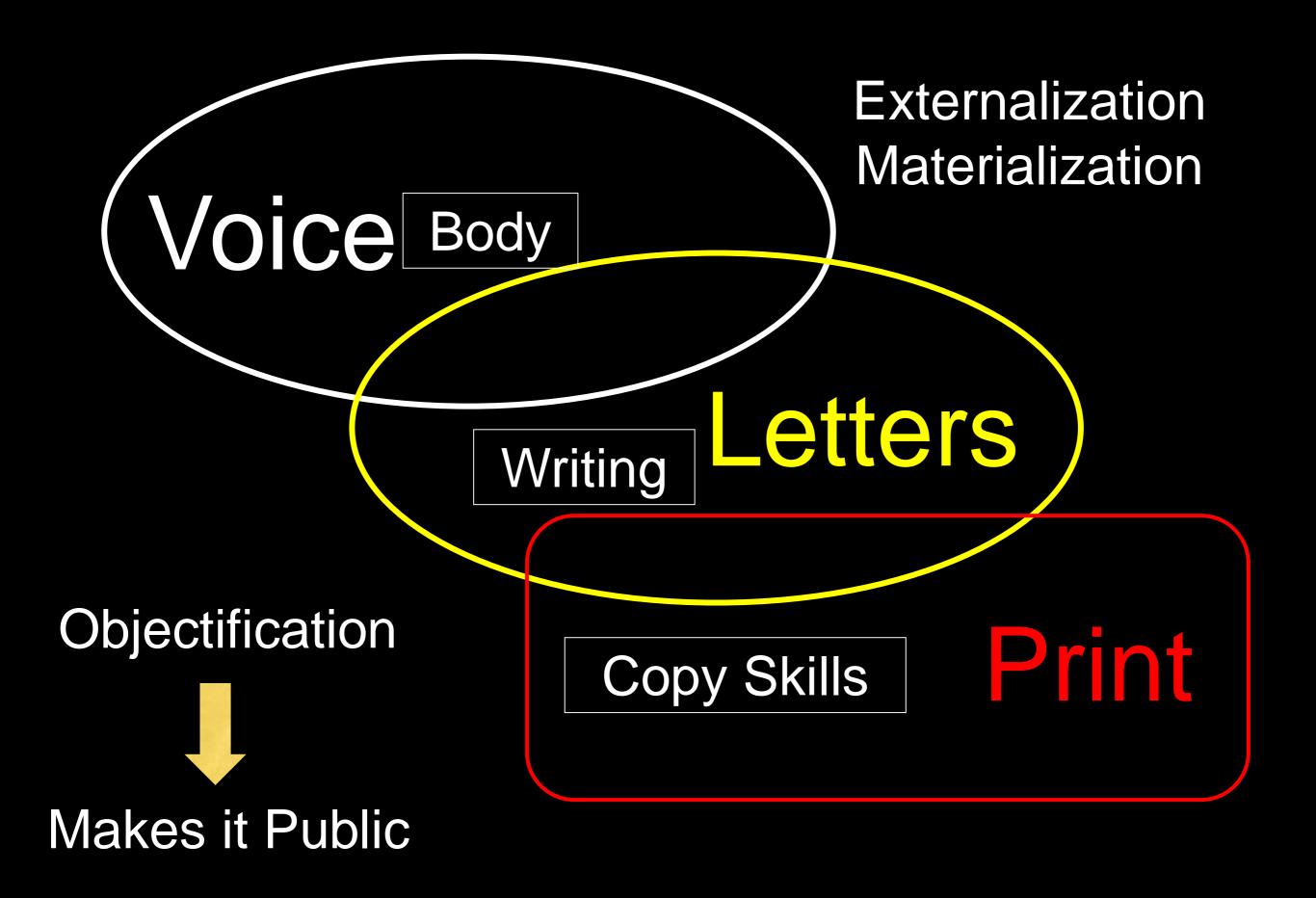
#### It creates a Society

#### It creates an Individual

<Tool for Thinking> <Private>

## Language is an extra Brain





Log Saw

#### Syllogism (one form of reasoning)

- 1) Bears in a cold area are white (major premise)
- 2 The North Pole is a cold area (minor premise)
- 3 Bears at the north pole are white (conclusion)

Phase 3

#### It is Space

#### Effectiveness of space notion in understanding language

- 1) Voice and space / reading aloud and silently, air vibration
- 2 Space comprises plurality coexistence of multiple elements makes it an open space
- 3 Highlight the networks of meaning Language functions like a web
- 4 We grow up in language space and learn to swim the sea of words

## Language as a Web Meaning as a Known

Relations to other works Relations to Locations

#### What is a Tool?

Object

Medium

Is it independent?

Do its function subsist?

#### A space where an object to chop coexists Coexistence with object

AX

Multiple methods
A space where multiple methods are available to chop

### Languale Space which easily disperses

Language among peers

Community language

"Translation"

# Language is an extra layer of Skin

Phase 4

#### It is a History

## History is embedded in one word

argumentative unproductive theory Crappy reason

Logic Theory theory

Stubborn Gloomy

boring narrow

#### society

societé

#### Sociology

#### 社会学/世態学

Sociology as "shakai-gaku" (study of a society) or "setai-gaku" (study of society's situation)

# Significance of Language Importance as a Tool

#### Physical and Social

An extra Hand

Communicate

An extra Brain

Think

An extra layer of Skin

Feel

#### Doubt easy answers

#### Face the Unknown