General vs. communicative language competence

From CEFR (2001) Chap 2.1

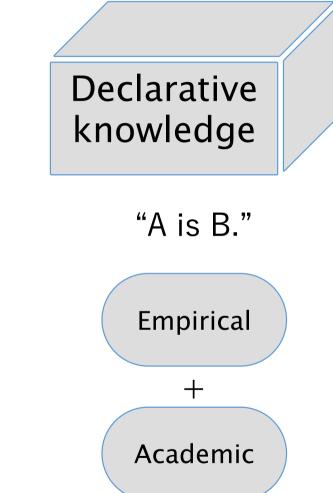
Yukio Tono (TUFS)

The general competences (1)

- Knowledge:
 - **Declarative knowledge** (*empirical* knowledge & *academic* knowledge)
 - Empirical:
 - Knowledge about day-to-day living
 - Knowledge of the shared values and beliefs in other countries/ regions

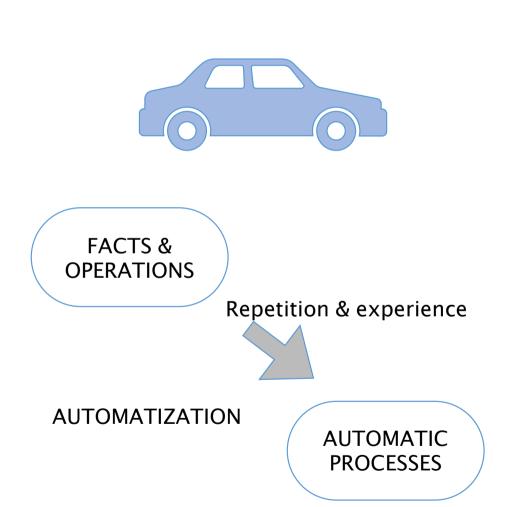
 \rightarrow essential for intercultural communication

- Academic:
 - Science & technology/professional field → useful for understanding texts in professional fields



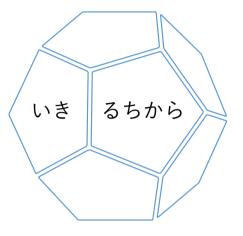
The general competences (2)

- Skills (know-how):
 - **Procedural knowledge** (the ability to carry out procedures)
 - *automatization* (e.g. driving a car / playing the violin)
 - Repetition and experience → a series of automatic processes
 - Initially requires an explicit break-down of conscious operations and the acquisition of certain facts



The general competences (2)

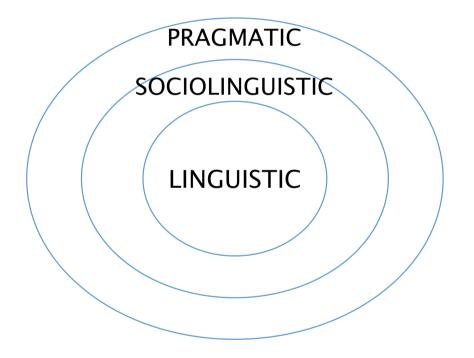
- Existential competence:
 - The sum of individual characteristics, personality traits, attitudes and temperaments
- Ability to learn:
 - Mobilize existential competence, declarative knowledge and skills, and draws on various types of competence.





Communicative language competence

- Linguistic competences
 - Lexical/phonological/syntactic
- Sociolinguistic competences
 - Language variations
- Pragmatic competences
 - Pragmatic functions



Language activities

• Reception : primary, since both are required for interaction

• Oral and/or written

 Production : primary Oral and/or written 	RECEPTION	PRODUCTION	INTERACTION	MEDIATION
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Interaction

- Production and reception alternate and may overlap in oral communication.
- Mediation
 - Translation/interpretation/paraphrase/summary/record

Domains

- Personal:
 - Family relations and individual social practices
- Public:
 - Everything connected with ordinary social interaction (business and administrative bodies, public services, cultural and leisure activities of a public nature, relations with the media, etc.)
- Educational:
 - The learning/training context where the aim is to acquire specific knowledge or skills.
- Occupational:
 - A person's activities and relations in the exercise of his/her occupation

OCCUPATIONAL	
EDUCATIONAL	
PUBLIC	
PERSONAL	

Tasks, strategies and texts

• **Tasks:** non-language tasks & language tasks

• **Strategies:** the use of strategies in communicating and learning

• **Texts:** Language activities necessitate the processing of oral or written texts

