# General vs. communicative language competence

#### From CEFR (2001) Chap 2.1

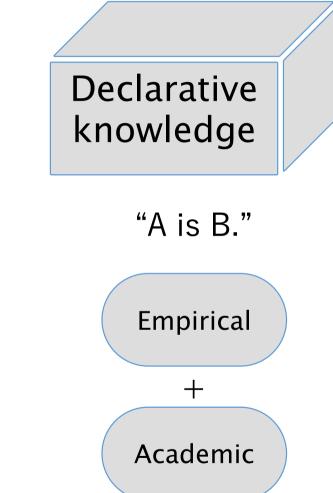
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## The general competences (1)

- 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

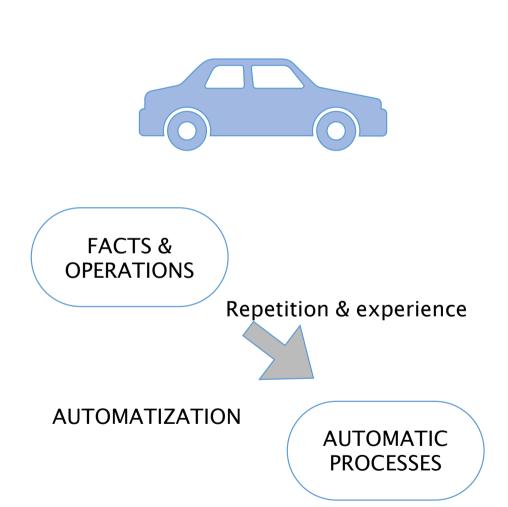
 $\rightarrow$  essential for intercultural communication

- 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)

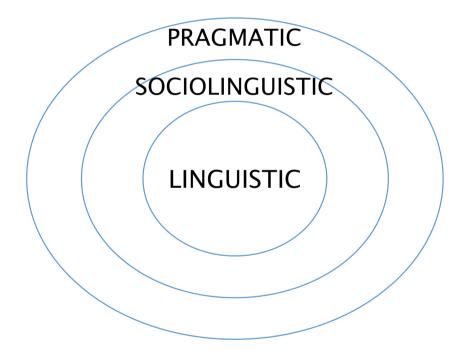
- Existential competence:
  - The sum of individual characteristics, personality traits, attitudes and temperaments
- Ability to learn:
  - Mobilize existential competence, declarative knowledge and skills, and draws on various types of competence.





#### 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

<ul> <li>Production : primary</li> <li>Oral and/or written</li> </ul>	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

