The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis is the theory that an individual's thoughts are determined by the language that an individual speaks. Words influence our thoughts, memories and perceptions. Research has shown that working class children tend to fall behind in school because of the language their parents use simplified language when explaining things tend to lead to limited elaborative encoding in LTM. Less language directly affects their intelligence. This adds to the validity of the theory.

Suggests that all human thoughts are bound by the restraints of one's language directly determines thoughts.

Suggests that language only shapes or influences our thinking.