

HIERARCHICAL ORGANISATION

EXAMPLE OF A DEFINING FEATURE THEORY

Collins and Quillian (1969, 1970) – key claims:

- Knowledge organisation hierarchically in a **semantic network**
- Network has nodes (concepts) and connections (relationships) between nodes...

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BIRD, ANIMAL, CANARY, ROBIN = subordinate

HAS SKIN, BREATHES, HAS FEATHERS etc. = Feature of

SPREADING ACTIVATION

When a concept (node) is activated, this activation spreads to other related nodes in the semantic network....

CANARY