

This excerpt from

Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing.
Christopher D. Manning and Hinrich Schütze.
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PART II

Words

“When I say, for instance, ‘I had a good breakfast this morning,’ it is clear that I am not in the throes of laborious thought, that what I have to transmit is hardly more than a pleasurable memory symbolically rendered in the grooves of habitual expression. . . . It is somewhat as though a dynamo capable of generating enough power to run an elevator were operated almost exclusively to feed an electric doorbell.”

(Sapir 1921: 14)

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