Theoretical Foundations
This study is concerned with understanding the indexical, mutually constitutive connection between experience in the world and language. Two theoretical foundations are used in understanding the implications of the connection between experience and language. The first is the ethnographic perspective of fifty-six-year-old Mexican-American from East Los Angeles.

1. William Labov’s concept of sequential processes (1989, 2005), which formulates a dialogic connection between the day-to-day experiences of people and language using Bühler’s concept of prototypical frames.

2. J.R. Martin’s concept of protody (1995), which provides a way to examine the relationship of prototypical frames to the individual experience that is expressed in the prototypical frames.

Together, these concepts show how deixis is related to the social and cultural levels, allowing an examination of the mechanics of language as a metonymic representation of experience.

Whitler Boulevard as a Decticle Origo

Figure 2: Iconic photo of overwre driving eastward on Whitler Boulevard appearing in the website broompalma.com.

I grew up in East LA and Whittier Blvd. was my Africa. It was the same pink sand, the same shade of green, with the same kind of store, the same kind of people, the same kind of places, the same kind of culture, the same kind of community. We were all brown, mixed, and we were all the same.

Submitted by: Toni East L.A.
3:03 PM PDT, May 15, 2010 to LA Times Article

Deixis in Narrative

Example: A map of the polynization of Los Angeles

2. The Intersection Between Conditions in History and Language

The Intersection Between Conditions in History and Language

Figure 3: This map represents the concentration of Mexican Spanish (3,11) speakers, both in Whittier Blvd. and in the area of Los Angeles where the Whitler Boulevard spills off from the demographic concentration in Pico Rivera. The map shows the rapid expansion of the Chicano movement during the depression of the 1970s and 1980s when the children of first-generation immigrants living in East LA began to move west. This map is derived from the language maps compiled by Derrick Attinger of "Project Languages of Los Angeles" in UCLA.

The Polyinization of Los Angeles

Polyinization is defined as a process whereby the "polyradial" space of space has occurred in the main metropolises of socio-cultural processes, but more specifically, because it is the easternmost and westernmost areas of Los Angeles, the most strongly influenced by the polyinization process.

Figure 4: According to the census exploration of the "Mexican" category includes people who speak either the North American "Mexican" or "Spanish" and have close ties identified with other specific regions. In other cases it includes people who were "other" ethnic groups into whom the "Mexican" category was identified. The table represents the diversity in Los Angeles and the associated demographic dissolution. The chart with the highest concentration of "Mexican" in the LA County area is the "Mexican".

The Emergent Decticle Field

In the narratives of residents of East Los Angeles, pluricentric, the evolution of the deictic field is in the direction of "Whittier Blvd." It seems that the "Whittier Blvd." represents a deictic field that is internalized and is related to a natural experience of speakers and their specific ethnocentric forms.

Example: 1. Area on the geographical index of a book about Whitler Boulevard
2. The area is called "Mexican American" (geo-spatial reference)
3. It is called "the Meso-American" (geo-spatial reference)
4. It is called "the West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)
5. It is called "West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)
6. It is called "West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)
7. It is called "West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)
8. It is called "West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)
9. It is called "West Los Angeles" (geo-spatial reference)

Whitler Boulevard was developed as a deictic center which organized discourses and practices regarding the reality of Mexican American experience. This spatialization of communities is a metonymic representation of the social and cultural identities that are linked to the deictic field.