the fluent speaker of the language". (Radford ,1989:3) *Competence* is contrasted by Chomsky with *performance*. Whereas *Competence* is " the speaker-hearer's knowledge of his language", *Performance* is "the actual use of language in concrete situations"(Chomsky, *Aspects* (1965),p.4) Very often, performance is an imperfect reflection of competence because of a variety of performance factors like tiredness ,boredom ,drunkenness ,drugs ,external distractions ,and so forth.

A.Radford (1997) says that "grammars traditionally set out to tell you what you need to know about a language in order to have native speaker competence in the language(i.e. to be able to speak the language like a native speaker)"(2) ; therefore, "grammar is concerned with competence ,rather than performance." (2) In other words, linguistics is primarily concerned with competence ;and a Theory of Competence will be a subpart of an eventual Theory of Performance because you have to understand what a native speaker knows about his language before you can study the effects of tiredness, drunkenness ,etc. on this knowledge. And by saying that grammar is the study of grammatical competence, we are "implicitly taking a *cognitive* view of the nature of grammar." (A. Radford ,1997:3) Thus, "grammar is part of the more general study of cognition (i.e. human knowledge)." (A. Radford ,1997:3)

Chomsky distinguishes two types of competence :(i) *grammatical competence*, and (ii) *pragmatic competence.* The former belongs to the Theory of Language Structure-,and the latter to the Theory of Language Use. Pragmatics is concerned with the role played by nonlinguistic information such as background knowledge and personal belief's in our use of sentences. Making use of Chomsky' s own example, we can say that if a friend of mine says to me that *"Today was a disaster"* and I know (by way of background information) that that friend was giving a special lecture today, then on the basis of this background knowledge I infer that he probably means that his lecture went down very badly.