adequate theory of language should be *universal* ,*explanatory* ,*restrictive* and should provide grammars which are *minimally complex* ,and hence *learnable* ." (A.Radford,1997: 23)

A. Radford (1997) describes this "*learnability*" as that "it must provide grammars which are learnable by young children in a relatively short period of time". (A. Radford , 1997: 6) In other words, "the neurophysiological mechanisms which underlie linguistic competence make it possible for young children to *acquire* language in a remarkably short period of time; "(A. Radford , 1997: 6) i.e. a related requirement is that linguistic theory should provide grammars which make use of the *minimal* theoretical apparatus required to provide a descriptively adequate characterization of linguistic phenomena. This means that "grammars should be as simple as possible". (A. Radford , 1997: 6) A. Radford (1997) goes on to say that "much of the work in syntax in the 1980s involved the postulation of ever more complex structures and principles" (A. Radford , 1997: 6) ; and "as a reaction to the excessive complexity of this kind of work, Chomsky in the 1990s has made **minimalism** (i.e. the requirement to minimize the theoretical and descriptive apparatus used to describe language) the cornerstone of linguistic theory." (A. Radford , 1997: 6) This **minimalism** minimizes the acquisition burden placed on the child, and thereby maximize the learnability of natural language grammars." (A. Radford , 1997: 7)

This theory of language ,then, constitutes an essential subpart of the theory of language acquisition that Chomsky seeks to develop on the basis of a detailed study of particular grammars, which in turn enable the linguist to hypothesize a set of linguistic universals which form the basis of his proposed theory of grammar. Therefore, Universals provide a key to *explanation* ;and it is only by hypothesizing that the child has innate knowledge of these universals that we can account for the rapidity of language acquisition. It is to be noted that Chomsky distinguishes two types