List of questions suggested for consideration
in each session

Session 1. Language Representation and Psychology

1. How psychologically accurate are different
formalisms? (e.g. KRL, conceptual dependency
diagrams, SCRIPTS, LNR, semantic networks/spread-
ing activation, etc.)

    How might we find out such information?
How important is psychological accuracy?
What aspects and consequences of various
formalisms lead to implausible cognitive models?

2. How would highly parallel hardware affect
representations and processing?

    What evidence is there for the action of
parallel agents (in Minsky's sense) in language
understanding?
How would such a model of cognition affect
models of language comprehension?

3. How general are various formalisms?

    Are they really ad hoc solutions to relative-
ly narrow domains (e.g stories, newspaper arti-
cles, data base question-answering, isolated
sentences, etc.)?
Which could be most successfully generalized?
What problems are still unsolved by any
formalism?

Session 2. Language Representation and Reference

    It is the hypothesis of this session that
entities which can be referred to provide prime
evidence for the underlying representation neces-
sary for extended passages of language (narrative,
text or discourse).

1. What functions do descriptions serve (e.g.
inferential as well as referential)?

    How much inference is necessary to resolve
reference?
Are items which can be referenced "naturally"
already appropriately organized or "indexed?"
How close is representation to surface
structure?
Does representation depend on factors like
attention or visualization on the part of a
listener?

2. What things can be referred to anaphorically?

    What things can not?
When (under what circumstances) can they be
referenced?
What intervening items can confuse reference
or make it impossible?
How are appropriate referring expressions
constructed/understood?
Are there differences in the answers for
reference by pronoun and definite noun phrases?

3. Is the initial hypothesis above valid?

    What other methods can be used to find out
about underlying passage representation?

Session 3. Discourse: Speech Acts and Dialogue

1. What sorts of models are necessary? (e.g.
self-models, other-models, model of "contract,"
model of topic, etc.).

2. What should be included in a model? (e.g.
beliefs, goals, current topic content, current
topic constituents, etc.).

3. How domain dependent must the models be?
    What signals are used to cue model
information?
    How are these signals understood?

4. How much information is lost in transcripts
of dialogues (i.e. without intonation, body
language, etc.)?
    Do we use different techniques in writing as
substitutes?

5. What makes discourse coherent?
    How could we characterize and model what is
communicated in a coherent discourse?
    What mechanisms are used to relate utterances
in a discourse?
    What relationships are there between produc-
tion and comprehension, and how are the models of
these processes used?

6. What extra meaning can be conveyed at the
phrasal level?
    How much depends on being able to "read
between the lines" in a dialogue?

Session 4. Language and Preception

1. How are language and perception related?
    How closely?
    Are natural language primitives related to a
priori perceptual entities?
    How might we find out?
    Are parts of speech perceptually based?

2. What is the function of visual imagery in the
understanding of language?
    How important is it?

3. Is perceptual experience represented in
memory like linguistic experience (e.g. stories)?
    If not, how are representations linked or
combined?

4. Do all schemata arise from the sensory/motor
world?
    To what extent should computational linguis-
tics mimic human development?
    What are the possibilities for a system to
learn language by experience?

Session 5. Inference Mechanisms in Natural
Language

1. How can we effectively use multiple descrip-
tions of entities?
    Should we?

2. How can presupposition be represented and
used in understand generating indirect replies to
questions, etc.

3. How is inference controlled?

4. What is the role of deduction in language
processing.
    What is its relation to inference?

Session 6. Computational Models as a Vehicle for Theoretical Linguistics

1. What can theoretical linguistics learn from computational models that is not accessible by traditional means?

2. What aspects of linguistics have not been fully comprehended or appreciated by computational linguists.

   What current directions in linguistics are most promising for computational modelling?

3. Is linguistics ripe for a paradigm shift?
   Are linguists ready?

4. What problems are most appropriate for each discipline?

   How might cooperation and coordination be improved?

5. What are the current views in each field on syntax, sematics and pragmatics?

   Why is there widespread disagreement, especially about the role of syntax?