Language Support Program

Figure 2.2.2  Word meanings and relationships

- **Perceptually based meanings**: Words understood in perceptual ways – how they look or sound. Examples: e.g. cars and bicycles have wheels.
- **Functionally based meanings**: Words understood in functional ways – what they do or are used for. Examples: e.g. cars and bicycles take you places.
- **Meanings in hierarchies**: Some meanings are more general than others. Examples: e.g. cars and bicycles are vehicles.
- **Abstract generic-based meanings**: Words understood in abstract ways. Examples: e.g. transport as a concept.