

2-46

BITS PILANI, DUBAI CAMPUS
Dubai International Academic City, U.A.E.
Semester II 2013-2014
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No: HSS F222

Course Title: Linguistics

Date: 03.06.14

Time: 3 hrs

Maximum Marks: 40

Weightage: 40

Note: Answer all questions.

I. Answer the following:

- 1) Give the morphological description of the following sentence by identifying the various types of elements in the sentence.

a) My best friend was spellbinding storyteller.

- 2) Consider the following words in Persian.

| | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| xaridam | 'I bought' |
| xaridi | 'you (sg) bought' |
| xarid | '(he) bought' |
| naxaridam | 'I did not buy' |
| namixaridand | 'they were not buying' |
| naxaridim | 'we did not buy' |

How would you say the following in Persian?

- a) They were buying.
- b) You (sg) did not buy.
- c) You (pl) were buying.
- d) We bought.
- e) I was buying.

- 3) Examine the following words from Michoacan Aztec.

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| sekali | 'a house' |
| nokalimes | 'my houses' |
| mokali | 'your house' |
| ikali | 'his house' |
| mopelomes | 'your dogs' |
| nipelo | 'the dog' |
| nokwahimili | 'my cornfield' |
| mokwahimili | 'your cornfield' |
| makhwa | 'friend' |

- a) What is the morpheme meaning 'the house' in Michoacan Aztec?
- b) What is the morpheme meaning 'his cornfields' in Michoacan Aztec?
- c) What is the word meaning 'my dogs' in Michoacan Aztec?
- d) What is the word meaning 'a friend' in Aztec?

(1 ¼ + 2½ + 2 marks)

II. Discuss by giving examples.

- (a) Structural analysis
- (b) Origin and growth of English (up to 10th century)

(3+4=7 marks)

III. 1. Draw tree diagrams for the sentence, '*The man knew that the robber would soon kill the owner of the shop*'.

2. Generate the following sentence in terms of a tree after applying transformational rule and deriving a new syntactic structure.

a) The team has finished the project.

3. Explain in what ways are the following expressions ambiguous or write *Not ambiguous*.

b) The professor said on Monday he would give an exam.

c) Visiting relatives can be boring.

(2+1+1 marks)

IV. 1. Identify the semantic role of the highlighted entities in the sentences below.

a) **The lady** wrote the letter **herself**.

b) **Tim** liked the way Jim decorated his room.

c) **The work** was interesting.

d) **The hurricane** destroyed the city.

(1 ½ marks)

2. Which of the following opposites are gradable, non-gradable, or reversible?

a) important/unimportant

b) nuclear/non-nuclear

c) increase/decrease

d) occupied/vacant

e) toward/away from

f) bring/take

(1½ marks)

3. Study the following pairs of words. What is the basic lexical relation between these pairs of words?

a) dish - food

b) paper - pencil

c) baloney - bologna

d) house - building

e) bright - bright

f) plot - plot

(1 ½ marks)

V. The following sentences have certain presuppositions that ensure their appropriateness. What are they?

1. Dan regrets that Maria went to the graduation ceremony.
2. John regrets that he stopped doing linguistics before he left Cambridge.
3. John says that the king of France is bald.
4. Neo's children have super powers.
5. That rabbit of Walter's is on the loose again.
6. Mary stopped taking orange juice for breakfast.
7. Tee knows that Bingee is a super player of the team Coco.
8. Keat wanted to address his employees' concerns.

(2 marks)

VI. Identify and name any deictic expression in the following sentences or write *Nil*.

1. Yesterday he gave Tito a gold watch.
2. I've been marooned on this island for six months now.
3. Azzick is a tall boy.
4. You have to be 18 to be allowed to drive a car.
5. Alexander was tutored by the philosopher Aristotle.
6. Would his highness like some coffee.
7. Kim will be around tonight.

(2½ marks)

VII. Explain with examples the salient features of caregiver speech.

(3 marks)

VIII. Rearrange the following morphemes in the natural developmental sequence and indicate the age at which these morphemes are used by a child.

1. verb form/auxiliary 'to be'
2. footes
3. possessive -'s /mummy's book
4. third person singular -s
5. irregular past tense went/came
6. -ing form
7. past tense -ed
8. plural -s

(2 ¼ marks)

IX. What is a pidgin language and why is it developed? Explain the linguistic features of any English pidgin.

(4 marks)

X. Do you agree with the following statement? What reasons would you give to support your opinions?

1. Teachers should teach only one L2 grammatical rule at a time and practice it thoroughly before introducing the next rule.

(3 marks)

- XI. Using what you have learned about comparative reconstruction, try to recreate the most likely proto-forms for these cognates

| <i>Languages</i> | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------|
| A | B | C | Proto-forms |
| riba | ripa | rive ('embankment') | _____ |
| copa | cuppa | coba ('cup') | _____ |
| amiga | amica | amie ('friend') | _____ |
| gota | gutta | gode ('drop') | _____ |

(2 marks)

11

BITS PILANI, DUBAI CAMPUS
Dubai International Academic City, U.A.E.
Semester II 2013-2014
TEST I (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No: HSS F222

Course Title: LINGUISTICS

Date: 19.02.2014

Time: 50 minutes

Maximum Marks: 25

Weightage: 25

- I.** Discuss any three *imitation hypotheses* concerning the origin of the first language? What are their limitations?
(6 marks)
- II.** Is it possible that a creature may learn to communicate with humans using language? Explain your answer by giving *three examples*.
(3 marks)
- III.** What is *double articulation* and how is different from the *creativity* of human language?
(2 marks)
- IV.** What is the basic difference between a rebus writing system and a logographic writing system. Is the cuneiform writing system same as logographic? Explain.
(4 marks)
- V.** How are consonants classified on the basis of manner of articulation? Discuss briefly.
(6 marks)
- VI.** What is a speech sound? Discuss briefly the various stages of speech mechanism.
(4 marks)

2~

BITS PILANI, DUBAI CAMPUS
Dubai International Academic City, U.A.E.
Semester II 2013-2014
QUIZ I (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No: HSS F222

Course Title: LINGUISTICS

Date: 26.03.2014

Time: 25 minutes

Maximum Marks: 15

Weightage: 15

NAME: _____

ID NO.: _____

VERSION A

Fill in the blanks:

1. Much of the evidence used in the reconstruction of ancient writing systems comes from _____ on stone or tablets.
2. _____ percent of the languages exist only in the spoken form.
3. Pictograms are more _____ forms are and the ideograms are more _____ derived forms.
4. _____ have alphabets representing mainly consonants.
5. Japanese word くるま (kuruma) indicates that Japanese follows _____ writing system.
6. _____ writing system is the earliest writing system still in use.
7. _____ is the study of physical properties of speech as sound waves in the air.
8. The _____ organs are called points of articulation.
9. _____ are classified as palatal sounds on the basis of place of articulation.
10. [tʃ] and [dʒ] are classified as _____ on the basis of manner of articulation.
11. The word *finger* has the nasal consonant _____.
12. There is no _____ in the production of a vowel sound.
13. The space between vocal cords in the larynx is called _____.
14. Glides are also called _____.

15. _____ is the most unstressed vowel of English language.
16. Phonemes are _____ sounds in a language.
17. Mention the phonetic features of the following sounds:
- a. [u] _____
- b. [ʌ] _____
18. Write the voiced counterpart of the sound [θ]: _____
19. In the production of [ŋ], _____ is used as an articulator.
20. The other versions of a phoneme are called _____.
21. _____ deals with restrictions in a language on the permissible combinations of phonemes.
22. When the word *library* is pronounced as /lajbrɪ/, it is an example of a process called _____.
23. An example of an open syllable: _____
24. All _____ are bound morphemes.
25. All lexical morphemes are _____ words.
26. 's is a/an _____ morpheme.
27. Inflectional morphemes perform _____ function.
28. Sing-sang is an example of _____ morpheme.

BITS PILANI, DUBAI CAMPUS
Dubai International Academic City, U.A.E.
Semester I 2013-2014
QUIZ I (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No: HSS F222

Course Title: LINGUISTICS

Date: 07.10.2013

Time: 25 minutes

Maximum Marks: 15

Weightage: 15

Fill in the blanks:

1. Written language developed _____ years ago.
2. The divine language spoken by the children during divine language experiment was identified as _____ by the Egyptian Pharaoh.
3. The appeal of yo-he-ho theory is that it places the development of human language in some _____.
4. _____ is the study of origin of words.
5. The tip of the tongue is called _____.
6. The human brain is _____, i.e. it has specialized functions in each of the two hemispheres.
7. Signals used intentionally to communicate something are called _____.
8. The property of human language that allows language users to talk about things and events not present in the immediate environment is called _____.
9. The non-iconic relationship between linguistic signs and objects in the world is described as _____.
10. In _____, there are two levels producing distinct sounds and distinct meaning.
11. _____ language was used to teach communication to Washoe.
12. In _____, the chimpanzee, called Gua, was reported to be able to understand about a hundred words, but did not 'say' any of them.

13. The psychologist _____ has argued that chimpanzees simply produce signs in response to the demands of people and tend to repeat signs those people use.
14. The linguist who made the claim that "acquisition of even the barest rudiments of language is quite beyond the capacities of an otherwise intelligent ape" was _____.
15. The earliest writing for which we have clear evidence is the kind that Geoffrey Nunberg is referring to as _____ marked on clay tablets about 5,000 years ago.
16. _____ is an example of a consonantal alphabet.
17. A modern writing system that is based on logographic system is found in _____.
18. _____ is a branch of phonetics which deals with the physical properties of speech as sound waves in the air.
19. Mention the phonetic features of the following sounds:
 - a. [ʃ] _____
 - b. [h] _____
 - c. [ʌ] _____
 - d. [æ] _____
20. Write the voiced counterpart of the sound [dʒ] : _____.
21. The rough, bony ridge immediately behind and above the upper teeth is called _____.
22. In the production of glottal stops, _____ is/are completely closed.
23. Affricates are produced with _____ obstruction of air stream.
24. The glides are also called _____.
25. A flap is represented by the symbol _____.
26. We move tongue from one vocalic position to another as we produce a _____.
27. In the production of [ŋ], _____ is used as an articulator.