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**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 10<sup>th</sup> 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>			
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Proto-forms</b>
riba	ripa	rive ('embankment')	_____
copa	cuppa	coba ('cup')	_____
amiga	amica	amie ('friend')	_____
gota	gutta	gode ('drop')	_____

(2 marks)

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**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)

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**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 /laɪbrɪ/, 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.