

湖南师范大学二00三年攻读硕士学位

研究生入学考试试题

学科、专业：英语语言文学
考试科目：英语语言

DIRECTIONS: All the questions should be answered in **ENGLISH** on the **ANSWER SHEET**

Section 1 (25%)

I. In terms of the height of tongue raising, the position of the highest part of the tongue and the degree of lip rounding, describe the English vowel. (6%)

1. [i]

2. [ɔ]

II. Study carefully the following English consonants, and then group them in terms of manner of articulation. (5%)

[w] [t] [z] [m] [r] [g] [h] [l] [n] [j]

III. Read carefully the following statement, and then define complementary distribution. (4%)

The allophones of [l] are in complementary distribution. The clear [l] occurs only before a vowel, the voiceless equivalent of [l] occurs only after a voiceless consonant, and the dark [l] occurs only after a vowel or as a syllabic sound after a consonant.

Section 2 (20%)

I. Divide the following word into its separate morphemes by placing a "+" between each morpheme and the next **OR** draw a tree diagram for your division. (3%)
telecommunicational

II. Study carefully the following words, particularly paying attention to their suffixes, and then classify the properties of the suffixes. (6%)

refusal, dangerous, vital, fearful, editorial, logic, verbose, rival (meaning competitor), static

III. Study carefully the following examples, and then explain their fixed syntactic lexical relations. (6%)

1. spick-and-span

2. cure somebody of a disease
3. I enjoy talking to you about old times.

IV. Identify in the following sentence four bound morphemes. State the function of each and say whether each is derivational or inflectional.(5%)

The teacher's brother considered the project impossible.

Section 3 (20%)

I . Answer the following questions briefly, clearly, grammatically and correctly.(10%)

1. What is the main grammatical difference between a sentence and a clause?
2. Why is it wrong to assume that the meaning of a sentence is the sum of the meaning of the words which compose it?

II. Decide and state the type of each of the following sentences according to its grammatical structure.(10%)

Example: We are students

Answer: It is a simple sentence.

1. We have carefully considered your counterproposal of 10th April to our offer (报价) of woolen underwear, but very much regret that we cannot accept it.
2. We are pleased by your prompt reply to our inquiry of Dec. 20th, 2001 about the captioned commodity and now wish to order from you as per our Purchase Order enclosed.
3. In accordance with the contract, you are kindly requested to open within ten days after receipt of this preliminary shipping advice (首次货物发送通知), with the Bank of China, the relative Letter of Credit in our favor, to be advised to us by the Union Bank of Switzerland, Zurich.
4. If you see a man staggering along the road, you may infer that he is drunk without saying a word; but if you say, "Had one too many?" you do not infer but imply that he is drunk.
5. Unlike the telephone, the television or the personal computer, all of which have strongly altered the human condition in this century, cars enjoy anthropomorphic

- status.
6. While the automobile is surely guilty of many sins, its critics choose to ignore that it has been the great liberator, permitting monumental population shifts, city to suburb, east to west, south to north and, more recently, north back to south.
 7. Even that most neutral of works, Webster's, in its Seventh New Collegiate Edition gives itself away, defining ambition first and foremost as "an ardent desire for rank, fame, or power".
 8. We like to believe that to pass a law is to change behavior, but passing laws about language, in a free society, almost never changes attitudes or behavior.
 9. Language, as one linguist has said, is "not primarily a means of communication but a means of communion.
 10. The companies that win will be those who most efficiently collect and use information to rapidly test new products, identify best-selling items, replenish stock and match marketing efforts to new consumer demands.

Section 4 (30%)

- I. Decide each of the following statements true or false by putting a tick (✓) for a true statement or a cross (×) for a false statement, after the corresponding number of the statement on the answer wheel.(10%)

1. Semantics studies the meaning that can be expressed.
2. One can derive the meaning of a word or a sentence from the situational and the linguistic context.
3. Meaning is, in fact, variable and is realized at different levels of language.
4. True synonymy does not at all exist in the English language because of various reasons.
5. Language is not simply a matter of providing factual information.
6. Language can be used to perform a number of speech acts.
7. Componential analysis aims at breaking down the meaning of a word into its minimal distinctive features or properties.
8. In terms of componential analysis, the word *woman* can be antonymy of the word *tree*.
9. Grammaticality of a sentence means whether the sentence is grammatically

第3页

acceptable to native speakers according to their intuition.

10. Each of the underlined parts of the sentence is its ultimate constituent:

They major in modern American Literature.

II. Translate into Chinese and exemplify each of the following. (10%)

Example: dialectal synonyms

Answer: 方言同义词, *Fall* and *autumn* are dialectal synonyms.

1. homography
2. homophony
3. gradable opposites
4. endocentric construction
5. exocentric construction

III. State the possible speech act of Speaker A in each of the following short dialogues. (10%)

Example: A: Our classroom is dirty. Who is on duty today?

B: It's Tom's turn to be on duty.

Answer: The question implies a complaint and suggestion.

1. A: I have run out of my ink.
B: Here you are.
2. A: Linda, the door bell is ringing.
B: Mum, I'm in the bathroom.
3. A: Our teacher is not feeling well and is in the hospital now.
B: I am free this afternoon.
4. A: Overdue books will be fined.
B: I never keep books from the library longer than I should.
5. A: Life is not always sunshine.
B: I think I can get over it.

Section 5 (18%)

I. Read carefully the following short passage, and then define conversational implicature. (6%)

第 4 页

When Alfred is asked of his opinion of Jerry's lessons, he says, "He is a good man." Alfred violates the maxim of relevance, implying that Jerry may be a good man, but not a good teacher. The hearer, if he knows Alfred well enough and if they have some common knowledge, will catch the conversational implicature right away.

II. Study carefully the following exchanges and answer the questions.(9%)

Exchange 1:

A: Where is the teacher?

B: There is a black car outside the teaching building.

Exchange 2:

A: The teacher is an awful bore. Don't you think?

B: The painting on the wall is beautiful, isn't it?

Questions:

1. In what context does B in Exchanges 1 and 2 respectively violate which maxim?
2. What is the conversational implicature of each of B's answers?

III. According to Austin, what are the three acts a person is possibly performing while making an utterance?(3%)

Section 6 (17%)

I. Cite two instances to illustrate each of the following statements.(12%)

1. Different cultural features—be they environmental, material, or social—produce different linguistic features.
2. Cultural features change diachronically within the same speech community. As fresh needs arise in a culture, its language responds by attaching new meanings to existing words.
3. Sometimes the diachronic process is somewhat more subtle.

II. Study the following data, and then answer the following questions, contrasting the meanings between the underlined Chinese and English colour terms.(5%)

Data:

- 1)他真是个黑包公。
- 2)He is a black villain.
- 3)她爱上了那个小白脸?
- 4)He told a white lie.

Questions:

1. What do the underlined colour terms mean?
2. What conclusion can you draw from the data?

Section 7 (20%)

第 5 页

Read the following passages and then analyze and state what each of the underlined parts refers to

Example: I bought an overcoat yesterday, and I like it.

Answer: It refers to the overcoat.

I. Now that ¹the genie is out of the bottle, the challenge is to housebreak ²it as much as possible, to integrate it into ³a population that grows by the year, spreading across the landscape. It will take a careful balance of planning and prudence. The automobile will remain the central source of personal transportation in all free, high-technology societies. How best to integrate ⁴it into a global ecosystem with finite resources is a question that may not be easy to solve, but the first step might be to acknowledge that like ⁵it or hate ⁶it, the automobile is here to stay.

II. ¹It is equally true that a condition that is purely human is not good for people to live in, and people do not want to live for very long in ²it. Obviously, the more artificial a human environment becomes, the more the word "natural" becomes a term of value. ³It can be argued indeed, that the conservation movement, as we know ⁴it today, is largely a product of the industrial revolution. The people who want clean air, clear streams, and wild forests, prairies, and deserts are people who no longer have ⁵them.

III. ——I hope you can have these goods delivered before the end of September.

We'd like ¹them to be there in time for our Christmas sales.

——Christmas doesn't come until almost the end of the year, does ²it?

——But, in the United States the Christmas season begins about a month before December 25.

——Well, I'm afraid ³it will be difficult for us to advance the time of shipment.

Our manufacturers are fully committed at the moment.

——I hope you'll try to get ⁴them to step up production.

IV. ——Our idea is that you deliver within three months after the contract signing.

——Impossible! ¹As you know, we make most of the machine parts, but the base of the truck come from another Swedish manufacturer. We have to order

from ²them first.

——I see.

——To make this bas, ³they must first get details, for example, the height of the tunnel.

——Right.

——⁴It'll therefore take quite a long time.