

Entrance Examination Paper for Master-degree Applicants

General Linguistics and Translation

Part I General Linguistics

I. Multiple Choice (10%)

1. Predication analysis is a way to analyze sentence meaning, which is proposed by the British linguist _____.
A. John Firth B. Bloomfield C. G. Leech D. Wittgenstein
2. The pair of words “excellent” and “terrible” are _____.
A. gradable antonyms B. Complementary antonyms
C. relational opposites D. Co-hyponyms
3. We call the relation between “animal” and “horse” as _____.
A. synonymy B. polysemy C. homonymy D. hyponymy
4. _____ deals with the relationship between the linguistic element and non-linguistic world of experience.
A. Sense B. Reference C. Symbol D. Though
5. Inflectional affixes convey _____ meaning.
A. Lexical B. grammatical C. morphological D. morphemic
6. “Tree” in English, “arbre” in French and “Baum” in German all refer to the same thing, which indicates that language is _____.
A. vocal B. arbitrary
C. productive D. culturally transmitted
7. If two sounds are in complementary distribution, they are _____ of the same phoneme.
A. symbols B. allophones C. phones D. signs
8. Sound (*adj.*) and sound (*n.*) are identical in pronunciation and spelling, but different in meaning. They are _____.
A. homophones B. homographs
C. hyponyms D. complete homonyms
9. CD-ROM is _____.
A. an abbreviation B. a coinage C. a blending D. an acronym
10. Children’s language acquisition is _____ of language.

- A. the memorization of words
- B. chiefly the internalization of individual sentences
- C. primarily the acquisition of the grammatical system
- D. simply a bunch of utterances

II. Define the following terms (20%)

- 1. allophone
- 2. diglossia
- 3. idelect
- 4. national language
- 5. pro-form
- 6. root morpheme
- 7. perlocutionary act
- 8. dissimilation
- 9. entailment
- 10. derivation

III. True-or-false Judgement (10%)

- 1. Some compounds are not entirely arbitrary.
- 2. Blind children have great difficulty in learning to speak but deaf children have no difficulty in learning to read.
- 3. Narrow Romic is meant to symbolize only those sounds which are capable of distinguishing one word form another in a given language while Broad Romic is intended to indicate all the possible speech sounds.
- 4. Phonology, different from phonetics, is language specific.
- 5. A morpheme is the minimal unit of meaning.
- 6. Words are the most flexible of all linguistic units, in respect of their internal structure.
- 7. The case category is used in analysis of morphemes to identify the syntactic relationship between words in a sentence.
- 8. Sense relates to the complex system of relationship that holds between the linguistic elements themselves.
- 9. One phoneme can be represented by only one single letter or grapheme.
- 10. People usually display in their use of language, particularly in their speech, biological trademark.

IV. Answer the following questions (20%, 5 points each)

1. Does the traffic light system have duality? Why or why not?
2. "Morpheme" is defined as the smallest unit in terms of relationship between expression and content. Then is morpheme a grammatical concept or a semantic one? What is its relation to phoneme? Can a morpheme and a phoneme form an organic whole?
3. Why is it important to know the relations a sign has with others, such as syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations?
4. What are the problems in IC analysis?

V. Draw an inverted tree diagram for the following sentence (10%)

She would like to have more expensive gifts.

VI. What is the relation between Systemic Grammar and Functional Grammar? (20%)

Part II. Translation (70 Min. 60 Points)

Section A

Directions: Translate the passage into Chinese. (35 Min. 30 Points)

The most complex lesson the literary point of view teaches--and it is not, to be sure, a lesson available to all, and is even difficult to keep in mind once acquired--- is to allow the intellect to become subservient to the heart. What wide reading teaches is the richness, the complexity, the mystery of life. In the wider and longer view, I have come to believe, there is something deeply apolitical--something above politics--in literature, despite what politicized literary critics may think. If at the end of a long life of reading the chief message you bring away is that women have had it lousy, or that capitalism stinks, or that attention must above all be paid to victims, then I'd say you just might have missed something crucial. Too bad, for there probably isn't time to go back to re-read your lifetime's allotment of five thousand or so books.

People who have read with love and respect understand that the larger message behind all books, great and good and even some not so good as they might be, is, finally, cultivate your sensibility so that you may trust your heart. The charmingly ironic point of vast reading, at least as I have come to understand it, is to distrust much of one's education. Unfortunately, the only way to know this is first to become educated, just as the only way properly to despise success is *first* to achieve it.

Section B

Directions: Translate the underlined part into English (35 Min. 30 Points)

为了看日出，我常常早起。那时天还没有大亮，周围非常清静，船上只有机器的响声。

天空还是一片湛蓝，颜色很浅。转眼间，天边出现了一道红霞，慢慢地扩大它的范围，加强它的亮光。我知道太阳要从天边升起来了，便不转眼地望着那里。

果然过了一会儿，在那个地方出现了太阳的小半边脸，红是真红，却没有亮光。这个太阳好像负着重荷似地一步一步，慢慢地努力上升，到了最后，终于冲破了云霞，完全跳出了海面，颜色红得非常可爱。