

2007 年上海海事大学攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

(重要提示: 答案必须做在答题纸上, 做在试题上不给分)

考试科目: 语言学基础知识

I. Define or explain the following terms: (40)

1. morphology
2. pragmatics
3. lingua franca
4. universal
5. isolating language
6. language acquisition device
7. linguistic relativity
8. sociolinguistics
9. bilingualism
10. cultural pluralism

II. Fill in the blank in each of the following statements with the word whose first letter is already given as a clue. You are not allowed to change the letter given. (20)

1. Linguists use tree diagrams to show that sentences follow a h_____ organization.
2. O_____ is found both in first and second language

development.

3. A regional variety of language is by no means intrinsically inferior to the s_____ variety of a given language.
4. In producing the English vowels, the air stream coming up from the lungs meets with no o_____ in whatsoever manner.
5. P_____ is the study of how sounds form systems and function to convey meaning.
6. Linguistic study is scientific because it is based on the systematic investigation of a_____ language data.
7. A root is often seen as part of a word; it can never stand by itself although it bears a clear, definite meaning; it must be combined with another root or an a_____ to form a word.
8. Language is p_____ in the sense that users can understand and produce sentences that they have never heard before.
9. As a major component of grammar, syntax consists of a set of a_____ rules that allow words to be combined with other words to form grammatical sentences.
10. S_____ is concerned with the inherent meaning of the linguistic form.

III. True or False Questions

Judge whether each of the following statements is true or false. If

a statement is false, explain or provide the correct version. (20)

() 1. Speech and writing are the two major media of communication.

Modern linguistics regards the written language as primary, and the spoken language as secondary.

() 2. According to Chomsky, speakers have internalized a set of rules

about their language. This rule system enables them to produce and understand an infinitely large number of sentences and recognize sentences that are ungrammatical and ambiguous.

() 3. It can be easily observed that phonetically similar sounds might be

related in two ways. They might form a contrast if they are two distinctive phonemes, or they do not form a contrast in meaning if they are allophones of the same phoneme.

() 4. Some languages change with time, while others are immune to

linguistic change.

() 5. Language change is invariably a change in the direction of

simplification.

() 6. The distinction of grammatical words and lexical words leads to

the distinction of "closed-class" words and "open-class" words.

() 7. Homonymy refers to the phenomenon that words having different

forms have the same meaning.

() 8. The morpheme is the smallest unit in terms of relationship

between expression and content, a unit which cannot be divided

without destroying or drastically altering the meaning, whether it is lexical or grammatical.

- () 9. The notion of context is essential to the pragmatic study of language. It is generally considered as constituted by the knowledge shared by the speaker and the hearer.
- () 10. It is generally believed that there is a close, "natural" connection between words and things.

IV. Answer the following questions (70)

1. Comment on the statement "Modern linguistics is mostly descriptive".
2. How does synchronic study differ from diachronic study?
3. What is grammaticality? What might make a grammatically meaningful sentence semantically meaningless?
4. Name the major types of synonyms in English.
5. In what way is utterance meaning different from sentence meaning?
6. List the four maxims of the Cooperative Principle (CP).
7. What do you know about social dialects and idiolects?