

2007 年上海大学语言学考研试题

I define the following terms.(20 points)

1. vowel:
2. Presupposition:
3. Co-articulation:
4. Interference:
5. Interlanguage:
6. Pidgin:
7. Anaphora:
8. Speech event:
9. Aphasia:
10. Schema:

II. Indicate the following statements true or false. Put a T for true or F for false as a required on the answer sheet following the proper number. (15 points)

1. As a naturally occurring event, parlor refers to the actualized language which is specific to the situation in which it occurs.
2. To find out the distinctive sounds, the customary practice is to try to find minimal pairs-----word forms which differ from each other only by one sound.
3. Chomsky regards competence as the ideal language user's knowledge of the rules of his language, which is often influenced by psychological and social factors.
4. Narrow transcription is intended to indicate only those sounds which are capable of distinguishing one word from another in a given language.
5. A free morpheme is one that may appear with at least one other morpheme.
6. In terms of IC Analysis, we can analyze sentence structure by means of tree diagrams or bracketing.
7. The phoneme, as the minimal unit which cannot be successively divisible, can nevertheless be analyzed into smaller components simultaneously. These smaller components of a phoneme are technically termed distinctive features.
8. Entailment is basically a semantic relation which can be illustrated by the following two sentences with sentence (a) entailing sentence (b).  
(a) He married a blonde.  
(b) He married a blonde heiress.
9. "Domestic bird" is the superordinate, and "chicken", "duck", "turkey" and "goose" are co-hyponyms.
10. As a performance error originally, metathesis is a process involving an alteration in the sequence of sounds.
11. Assimilation refers to the change of a sound as a result of the influence of an adjacent sound, resulting from least effort.
12. Dialects which identify where a person is in terms of a social scale are called social dialects which are highly stratified in terms of social divisions, such as race, class, professional status, age and sex.
13. Adjacency pairs refer to the fact that one type of utterance, such as question-answer, greeting-greeting, offer-acceptance, apology-minimization.

14. The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis has two major thrusts: linguistic determinism, that, language determines thought, and linguistic relativity, that is, there is no limit to the structural diversity of languages.

15. The generic situation of the discourse is often defined in terms of tenor which is the category used to describe what language is being used for in the situation.

### III. Complete the following statements. (30 points)

1. (1) means that human languages enable their users to symbolize objects, events and concepts which are not present in time and space at the moment of communication.

2. For many American English speakers, the best example, or the (2), of “bird” is the *robin*.

3. We describe the relationship or the agreement between *boy* and *his* in the sentence *the boy liked his dog* in terms of (3) (4), mainly derived from a biological distinction between male and female.

4. If someone tells you that *Your uncle came back from the United States*, there is an obvious (5) that you have an uncle.

5. The children (6) the rule of adding *-ed* to form the verb past form such as *goed*.

6. The term (7) refers to the gradual development of ability in a language by using it naturally in communicative situations, while the term (8) applies to a conscious process of accumulating knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar of a language.

7. The combination *str* is a (9) (10), i.e., it consists of more than one consonant.

8. The phrase “a grief age” by Dylan Thomas breaks the rules of normal use of English. Such abnormal use is called (11).

9. When an individual speaks, what is actually produced is a unique language system of the speaker. Such a personal dialect is referred to as (12).

10. *NASA* or *UNESCO* are examples of (13), formed from the initial letters of a set of other words, and typically pronounced as (14) words.

11. The verbs *work* becomes the noun *worker* if we add the (15) morpheme *-er*.

12. The American TOEFL test is an example of (16) test.

13. According to the principle of (17) (18) by George Kingsley Zipf, language use is characterized by two competing forces: the force of unification, or the speaker’s economy, and the force of diversification, or hearer’s economy.

14. When learning a second language, the learners will transfer the features of their mother tongue. Such transfer can be (19) when interference occurs and results in (20).

15. The (21) syllabus is a grammar oriented syllabus based on a selection of language items and structures.

16. In the *tu/vous* distinction, *tu* was used to signal either (22) or that the speaker was of (23) social status than the addressee.

17. The strong version of (24) Hypothesis emphasizes the decisive role of language as the shaper of our thinking patterns.

18. Saussure’s (25) linguistics is the study of language through the course of its history. “*A Grammar of Modern Chinese*” will usually claim to be a (26) grammar.

19. We use the (27) to interpret what we experience and what we hear or read about. It is a conventional knowledge structure existing in memory, for example, the conventional supermarket

feature includes food displayed on shelves, shopping carts and baskets, check-out counter, and so on.

20. The study of “intended speaker meaning” is called (28).

21. The pairs *bank* (of a river) and *bank* (financial institution) are examples of (29).

22. The components of “thin, sharp, steel, instrument” would be a part of the (30) meaning of *needle*.

IV Read each of the following statements carefully. Decide which one of the four choices best completes the statements. (15 points)

1. The sentence “Round the rock runs the river” is noticeable for its \_\_\_\_\_.

A. rhyme B. assonance C. consonance D. alliteration

2. The right description of the vowel [i:] is \_\_\_\_\_.

A. high, front, tense, rounded B. high, front, tense, unrounded  
C. high, back, lax, central D. low, back, lax, rounded

3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is not a sound; it is a collection of distinctive phonetic features.

A. phoneme B. phone C. sound D. speech

4. The word “meaning” contains two \_\_\_\_\_.

A. phonemes B. stems C. inflection affixes D. morphemes

5. The syntactic rules of any language are \_\_\_\_\_ in number.

A. large B. small C. finite D. infinite

6. The pair *husband* and *wife* is the example of \_\_\_\_\_ opposites.

A. gradable B. complementary C. relational D. none of them

7. Language disorder resulting from a damage to \_\_\_\_\_ area in the brain reveals word-finding difficulties and problems with syntax.

A. Wernicke’s B. Broca’s C. Gage’s D. Genie’s

8. A \_\_\_\_\_, a marginal language, is a variety of a language which developed for some practical purpose, such as trading, and it would have no native speakers.

A. lingua franca B. pidgin C. creole D. national language

9. German English, Dutch and so on have the common ancestor of language, which is called \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Germanic B. Celtic C. Italic D. Latin

10. If a person responds to the question “Do you know where the Bund is?” with “Yes, I know” and then walks away. We may say he fails to recognize the \_\_\_\_\_.

A. direct speech act B. the question C. indirect speech act D. face-saving act

11. A simple greeting like “Hi, how y’all doing?” tells a lot about the speaker’s intentional use of language. Such variation according to use in specific situations is studied in terms of \_\_\_\_\_.

A. dialect B. register C. diglossia D. prestige

12. The two words *big* and *pig* can be described as a \_\_\_\_\_.

A. minimal pair B. minimal sound C. allophone D. free variant

13. According to Krashen’s \_\_\_\_\_ principle, the language that learners are exposed to should be just far enough beyond their current competence that can understand most of it but still be challenged to make progress.

A. Input Hypothesis B. Pre-modified Input

C. interactively Modified Input D. “i+1” Principle

14. In the history of American linguistics, the period between 1933 and 1950 is know as the Era of

\_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Sapir    B. Bloomfield    C. Firth    D. Chomsky

15. Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar is different from other linguistic theories in many aspects. It attaches great importance to the \_\_\_\_\_ aspects of language, and it distinguishes linguistic \_\_\_\_\_ from actual linguistic behavior.

- A. sociological; competence      B. psychological; parole  
C. sociological; potential      D. biological; performance

V. Briefly answer the following questions. (30 points)

1. What are the design features of language?
2. Explain five basic categories of illocutionary acts by Seale with examples.
3. What do you know about the Cooperative Principle and its maxims?

VI. Essay questions (about 150 words for each essay) (40points)

1. Some people say that language is a reflection of mental reality while others prefer to take a social attitude in their description of language. Which do you think is more correct and why?
2. Discuss briefly the role of theoretical linguistics in applied linguistics.