

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Faculty of Arts and Science

DECEMBER 2010 EXAMINATIONS

LIN 200H1F

Duration - 2 hours

No Aids Allowed

INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE

NAME _____
(please print) Last Name Given Name

Student Number _____

| | Possible Points | Points |
|---------|-----------------|--------|
| Page 2 | 7 | _____ |
| Page 3 | 8 | _____ |
| Page 4 | 10 | _____ |
| Page 5 | 6 | _____ |
| Page 6 | 11 | _____ |
| Page 7 | 11 | _____ |
| Page 8 | 15 | _____ |
| Page 9 | 15 | _____ |
| Page 10 | 10 | _____ |
| Page 11 | 7 | _____ |
| TOTAL | 100 | _____ |

PLEASE HAND IN

Vowels of English with example words:

Shaded cells contain round vowels

Lax vowels are contained inside the circle.

| | Front | Central | Back |
|------|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| High | /i/ (beat) | | /u/ (boot) |
| | /ɪ/ (bit) | | /ʊ/ (book) |
| Mid | /e/ (bait) | /ə/ (above - 1st vowel) | /o/ (boat) |
| | /ɛ/ (bet) | | /ʌ/ (but) /ɔ/ (born) |
| Low | /æ/ (bat) | | /ɑ/ (bought) |

Diphthongs:

/ay/ /bay/ *buy*

/aw/ /plaw/ *plow*

/oy/ /boy/ *boy*

continued

1. The word *unzippable* is ambiguous. Even if you have never heard of this word before, you should be able to think of two possible meanings for it. Draw the 2 morphological trees for this word and clearly indicate which meaning goes with each tree. (5 marks)

Tree 1

Tree 2

Meaning 1: _____

Meaning 2: _____

2. Are the vowels [f] and [v] allophones of the same phoneme or separate phonemes in modern English? Give evidence to support your answer. (2 marks)

3. Briefly describe Gazzaniga's experiment on split-brain patients and clearly explain what the experiment shows about language lateralization. (3 marks)

4. Each of the following sets contains one member that does not belong. It differs from the others by one feature. Circle the inappropriate symbol and explain why. (3 marks)

example [p b d g]

the circled one is voiceless

all the others are voiced

a. [u o ɔ a]

the circled one is _____

all the others are _____

b. [ž y ĵ č]

the circled one is _____

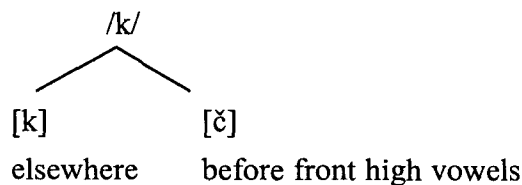
all the others are _____

c. [ž v z r]

the circled one is _____

all the others are _____

5. Given the following distribution of the sounds [k] and [č], propose a rule (with a name) that would account for the alternation. (2 marks)



6. List all of the noun phrases in the following sentence:

(5 marks)

The art student with the light brown easel gave a very beautiful painting to her teacher as a gift.

Hint: it will help if you draw the tree on the opposite page.

7. Consider the following sentence:

(a) *Did you really buy three new textbooks from the bookstore?*

7a. Give the deep structure of sentence (a) in words:

(2 mark)

7b. Draw the surface structure of sentence (a).

(3 marks)

- 8a. The sentence below is ambiguous. Draw the two possible tree structures and indicate clearly which meaning is associated with which tree. (6 marks)

The man from the moon is watching the spacewoman with the binoculars.

(i)

(ii)

8b. Describe the type of ambiguity that is found in sentence (8a).

(2 marks)

9. Circle the word to indicate whether the following pairs of antonyms are gradable, complementary or relational. (3 marks)

a. *trainer/trainee* gradable complementary relational

b. *animal/plant* gradable complementary relational

c. *fast/slow* gradable complementary relational

10. The word 'phantonym' is a recent creation. Which word process created 'phantonym'? Explain.

(2 marks)

11. Explain why the word *noisome* (meaning 'smelly', 'unhealthful') can be described as a 'phantonym' of *noisy*. (2 marks)

12. Explain the ungrammaticality of the following sentences by referring to noun subcategories. Each ungrammatical sentence is paired with a grammatical sentence to help you.

12a. **There are less eggs in the cake.*

There is less milk in the cake.

(1 mark)

Explanation:

12b. **Teacher read the poem out loud.*

Etienne read the poem out loud.

(1 mark)

Explanation:

continued

13. For each pair of words, circle the word that best describes their relationship.

(3 marks)

a. *left* 'opposite of right'

left 'leave', past tense

polysemy

homonymy

homophony

homography

b. *record* 'the disc'

record: 'music'

polysemy

homonymy

homophony

homography

c. *close* (verb) 'to block against entry'

close (adjective) 'nearby'

polysemy

homonymy

homophony

homography

14. The slang word *cool* was originally part of the professional jargon of jazz musicians and referred to a specific artistic style of jazz. With the passage of time, *cool* has come to cover a general term indicating approval. This shift in meaning is best described as _____ . (1 mark)

15. Indicate which of the following sentences contain propositions by circling 'yes' or 'no'. If the sentence does include a proposition, circle whether the proposition is true or false. (4 points)

i. Did John send his application to the agency already?

a. YES NO

b. TRUE FALSE

ii. Elise didn't go for grocery shopping in the morning.

a. YES NO

b. TRUE FALSE

iii. Are lions really carnivorous?

a. YES NO

b. TRUE FALSE

16. The following sentences include presuppositions. Write the presupposition down for each sentence.

(3 marks)

i. Have you stopped your dancing classes?

ii. His grandmother sent him a box of chocolates.

iii. Everyone will go to the party.

continued

17. Assign the most appropriate thematic role to each of the underlined NPs:

(7 marks)

- i. They must have used indelible ink.

- ii. Susan emailed her CV to Steve's assistant at L&S firm

- iii. Mary was feeling sick, so she decided to work from home.

18. What does the term 'definiteness' refer to? Make sure to include examples.

(4 marks)

19. Which of Grice's conversational maxims is violated in John's response?

(1 mark)

(Context: Simon is driving John to Suzan's house)

Simon: Where does Suzan live?

John: Nevada.

Maxim Violated: _____

20. Do the following sentences contain any entailments? Circle the right answer and write down the corresponding entailment where appropriate.

(3 marks)

- i. John and Mary are happy. YES NO

Entailment:

- ii. Bill overslept yesterday. YES NO

Entailment:

continued

21. Give one sentence that is a contradiction.

(1 mark)

22. What are the three main types of 'deixis'? Give at least one example for each.

(6 marks)

23. According to Grimm's Law, proto Indo-European voiced stops became: _____ in English; while _____ became voiced unaspirated stops.

(2 marks)

24. How would the vowels of these words have been pronounced before the Great Vowel Shift? Provide the phonetic symbol for the original vowel.

(2 marks)

house []

name []

25. List two writing (/punctuation) errors and provide one example for each.

(4 marks)

26. Circle the right answer:

(1 mark)

Languages such as Ojibwe, Blackfoot and Cree use:

- a. pictograms
- b. ideograms
- c. phonograms
- d. syllabaries

27. Which two writing systems are used in public multilingual places? Explain why.

(3 marks)

28. How can orthography affect first language acquisition?

(2 marks)

29. Give two reasons for maintaining our current spelling system.

(2 marks)

30. What does the term *linguistic big bang* refer to?

(2 marks)

31. Give two reasons why language shift occurs. Explain.

(3 marks)

32. Give two reasons why speakers were able to 'revive' Hebrew.

(2 marks)

33. Many Native American languages may soon be extinct. Name two challenges that language renewal programs are facing.

(2 marks)
