MOCK EXAM QUESTIONS

All questions are multiple-choice. Each correctly answered question is worth one point. Only one answer per question is correct. Questions with more than one item ticked count as incorrectly answered. If you feel the need to correct your answer, fill out the wrong box (g) and tick the new answer (r). No points will be deducted for any incorrect answers. All questions must be answered within 60 minutes.

1. **Phonetics and Phonology**
   1. Find the **most accurate** definition of each of the following linguistic terms!
      1. phonotactic constraints are rules for …  
           word stress in all languages 🗷 syllable structures in one language
      2. the secondary stressis a …  stress on the second syllable 🗷 less prominent stress on a syllable
      3. allophonesare …  all kinds of phones 🗷 realizational variants of phonemes (same phoneme)  
           local varieties of phonemes  phonemes articulated in a comon manner
   2. Find the matching symbol to each phoneme’s articulatory description!
      1. long, open-mid, back, rounded vowel  /uː/  /w/ 🗷 /ɔː/  /æ/  /ɑː/  /iː/
      2. voiceless, dental fricative  /k/ 🗷 /θ/  /h/  /ð/  /v/  /f/
      3. voiced, alveolar, lateral approximant  /w/  /n/ 🗷 /l/  /ɹ/  /m/  /ʍ/
      4. short, mid, central, vowel (aka schwa) 🗷 /ə/  /ɪ/  /eː/  /ʌ/  /ʏ/  /e/
      5. long, close, front, unrounded vowel  /uː/  /ɑː/ 🗷 /i:/  /ɪ/  /yː/  /ʊ/
      6. voiced, post-alveolar fricative (~palato-alveolar)  /ʃ/  /tʃ/  /j/  /dʒ/ 🗷 /ʒ/  /ʝ/
      7. voiced, velar nasal  /h/  /nɡ/  /ɡ/ 🗷 /ŋ/  /η/  /ɳ/
   3. For the following utterances in English, which transcription shows an appropriate syllabification?
      1.  [tɹe.ʒɪɹ.əɹ]  [tɹe.ʒɪ.ɹəɹ] 🗷 [tɹeʒ.ɪ.ɹəɹ]  [tɹ.eʒɪ.ɹəɹ]
      2. 🗷 [kɔŋ.kɹiːt]  [kɔŋk.ɹiːt]  [kɔŋkɹ.iːt]  [kɔ.ŋkɹiːt]
      3.  [pɹɪs.kɹɪp.ʃn̩] 🗷 [pɹɪ.skɹɪp.ʃn̩]  [pɹɪsk.ɹɪpʃ.n̩]  [pɹɪskɹɪpʃn̩]
   4. For I.3., what is the name of the phonotactic rule for syllable formation in English?  
       minimum nucleus construct  maximum coda principle  minimum coda correlation  
      🗷 maximum onset principle  average coda perception  average nucleus correlation
   5. For each of the following items, decide whether they are adept for a minimal pair test. If so, choose the phonemes that can be distinguished from each other!
      1. *feather* and *father*  /f/ and /v/  /ɪ/ and /ə/ 🗷 /e/ and /ɑː/  /ð/ and /θ/  none
      2. *grate* and *great*  /ɪ/ and /e/  /r/ and /ɹ/  /ɡ/ and /k/  /e/ and /ɑː/ 🗷 none
      3. *sit* and *seat*   /d/ and /t/ 🗷/ɪ/ and /iː/  /z/ and /s/  /eɑ/ and /i/  none
2. **Morphology**
   1. Find the **most accurate definition** of each of the following linguistic terms!
      1. morphemesare *…*  
           the smallest units of an utterance capable of distinguishing meaning (~phoneme)  
          🗷 the smallest units of an utterance capable of conveying meaning
      2. content words are *…*  
           bound, lexical morphemes (derivational morpheme)  bound, free morphemes   
          🗷 free, lexical morphemes  free, grammatical morphemes (function words)
      3. allomorphs are …  
           all kinds of pre- and suffixes 🗷 realisational variants of morphemes  
           inflectional affixes  groups of function-related morphemes
      4. affixesare …  
           grammatical inflections 🗷 the group of pre-, in-, and suffixes  
           the base of word formation  free, derivational morphemes
   2. Which of the following is **no** word formation strategy in English?  
        clipping 🗷 reduction  conversion  blends  
        derivation  onomatopoeia  compounding  acronyms
   3. Which of the following is a possible morpheme in English?
      1.  *-able*  [-able]  <-ities> 🗷 {-en}  {teacher}(two morphemes)
      2.  /war/ 🗷 {big}  {ge-}  *big*  <-ships>
   4. Find the categories which {-er} fits into!  
        bound and free morphemes 🗷 lexical and grammatical morphemes (e.g. teacher, higher)

 all  none

* 1. In each of the following lists of compounds, which of the semantic types is **not** represented?
     1. *Grand Canyon (endo/exo)*, *White House (endo/exo)*, *pickpocket (exo)*, *half-blind (endo)* 🗷 appositional  endocentric  exocentric
     2. *product placement (endo)*, *iron oxide (copulative)*, *blue-grey (copulative)*, *maidservant (appositional)*  appositional  copulative 🗷 exocentric
     3. *blackmail (exo)*, *bittersweet (copulative)*, *skinhead (exo)*, *singer-songwriter (appositional)*  
          copulative 🗷 endocentric  exocentric

1. **Syntax** 
   1. The following sentence is ambiguous: *Theodore briefly saw [[the thief] [in a light blue car]].*
      1. Which is no possible syntactic analysis on the form-level of the above sentence?   
           NP; VP; NP 🗷 NP; VP; AdvP  NP; VP; NP; PrepP
      2. Which sequence of words is a valid phrase (in the sentence above)?  
           {Theodore briefly}  {saw the}  {thief in} 🗷 {a light blue car.}
      3. Which word class is **not** exemplified (in the sentence above)?  
          🗷 pronoun  preposition  adverb  verb  determiner
   2. In each of the following triplets, find the correct statement!
      1.  Compared to Latin, English is highly synthetic. (the other way round)  
           Analytic languages often have a high number of inflections. (Synthetic languages)  
          🗷 Word order is more strict in analytic languages.
      2. 🗷 The modifier describes the head of the phrase.  
           The head of the phrase is named after the phrase. (phrase named after the head)  
           The movement test always works to identify phrases in English. (not always work)
      3.  A clause in English typically consists of a subject phrase and a verb phrase. NP VP  
          🗷 Adjective phrases can become part of the subject. [The beautiful lady] sat down.  
           Adverb phrases always have the grammatical function of an adverbial. (e.g. pre-modifier)
      4. 🗷 A clause in English typically has got the word order SVO. (unlike German SVO or OVS)  
           Intonation plays a major role in expressing grammatical relations in English.  
           The number of inflections in English has risen over the course of the language’s history.
   3. Sentences III.3.a)–e) have been separated into distinctive phrases in their original order. Among them, find the following grammatical constituents!
      1. Look for the **OD**:  
           [Today]  [Peter]  [is reading] 🗷 [a book about dinosaurs.]
      2. Look for the **A**:  
           [Gus and I]  [gave]  [them]  [a present] 🗷 [last year.]
      3. Look for the **S**:   
          🗷 [Onions]  [are stored]  [in a pot]  [by amateurs.]
      4. Look for the **CO**:  
           [We]  [consider]  [this case] 🗷 [solved]  [by now.]
      5. Look for the **OI**:  
           [Harry]  [showed] 🗷 [Ron]  [his scar]  [on the train.]
   4. To express grammatical relations, English makes use of both synthetic and analytical methods.
      1. Which feature cannot be marked **synthetically** in English?  
           tense (-ed)  person (-s)  number (-s)  comparison (-er) 🗷 aspect
      2. Which feature cannot be marked **analytically** in English?  
           number (needs -(i)(e)s or -en to mark plurality)  mood  voice  aspect  tense
2. **Semantics**
   1. For the following items, find the one **incorrect** semantic relation!
      1. *fork* is a …  
           holonym of *prong*  hyponym of *cutlery*  🗷 co-meronym of *spoon* (co-hyponym)
      2. *strange* is a …  
           synonym of *mysterious* 🗷 hyperonym of *weird* (synonym)  antonym of *usual*
      3. *move* is a …  
          🗷 hyponym of *walk* (hyperonym)  hyperonym of *fly*  antonym of *stand*
   2. **Componential analysis** can be used to describe the semantic intension of lexical units.
      1. Which feature is **no** part of the meaning of *bull*?  
           [+ male]  [+ bovine] 🗷 [– adult](+ adult)  [– adolescent]
      2. Which feature is a part of the meaning of *car*?  
           [– mobile] 🗷 [+ engine]  [+ red]  [– slow]
   3. Complete each sentence so that it becomes a **correct statement**!
      1. The linguistic sign has been established by …  
           Michel Foucault  William Shakespeare  H. P. Grice (conversational maxim)  
           Karl Bühler 🗷 Ferdinand de Saussure  Noam Chomsky
      2. The field of representing meaning in dictionaries is called …  
           lexicology  applied linguistics  lexical semantics  
          🗷 lexicography  structural semantics  lemmatization
      3. Semanticists study … (not a good question)  
           contextual meaning of utterances 🗷 general meaning of all linguistic signs up to sentences  
          🗷 meaning of sentences and texts  post-structuralist literature
3. **Pragmatics**
   1. The following is an excerpt from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s *A Scandal in Bohemia*:

“‘He can’t lie in the street. May we bring him in, ma’am?’ – ‘Surely. Bring him into the sitting-room. There is a comfortable sofa. This way, please!’ Slowly and solemnly he was borne into Briony Lodge and laid out in the principal room, while I still observed the proceedings from my post by the window.” (Doyle, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. London 2004: 30)

* + 1. Considering that certain deictic meanings can also be included in inflectional forms, how many elements of deixis are included in the excerpt above?  
         8  10  12  14 🗷 16  18
    2. Which category of deixis is **not** exemplified here?  
         spatial deixis (3)  personal deixis (8)  temporal deixis (5) 🗷 none
  1. A possible conversational snippet between two parents shopping together with their children could be:

A: “Let’s get something for the kids as well.”  
 B: “Okay, but something else than I-C-E C-R-E-A-M.”

* + 1. Which conversational maxim has been ignored by B?  
        🗷 the maxim of manner (obscure)  the maxim of quantity  the maxim of quality
    2. What is the fourth to the three maxims above?  
         the maxim of expression 🗷 the maxim of relevance  the maxim of direction

1. **Wildcard**

Which symbols are used for phonetic or close transcription? (phone)  
 { } 🗷 [ ]  < >  / / (phoneme)  ‘ ’  “ ” ( )  **\***  **| |**  \ \

**Results**  
**I.** \_\_\_\_ / 17 + **II.** \_\_\_\_ / 11 + **III.** \_\_\_\_ / 13 + **IV.** \_\_\_\_ / 8 + **V.** \_\_\_\_ / 4 + **VI** \_\_\_\_ / 1 =\_\_\_\_\_ / 54 points