

(7 pages)

Reg. No. :

Code No. : 40193 Sub. Code : EMEN 42

B.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2025.

Fourth Semester

English — Core

ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. According to _____, language evolved from the imitation of natural sounds.
 - (a) The Bow- Wow Theory
 - (b) The Social Interaction Source
 - (c) The Tool-Making Source
 - (d) The Genetic Source

2. Fasold and Linton observe that according to archeological records, language originated about _____ ago
 - (a) 200,000 years
 - (b) 100,000 years
 - (c) 10,000 years
 - (d) 2000 years
3. According to Holmes, how does audience interact with the content of broadcast media?
 - (a) Passively accept the given context
 - (b) Actively construct meaning from the context
 - (c) Rarely understand the underlying meanings
 - (d) Focus only on the entertainment value
4. The contribution made by Charles Peirce to Semiotics is
 - (a) Providing tools for studying language
 - (b) Examining the meaning of texts
 - (c) The classification of Signs into Indices, images and symbols
 - (d) Focussing the cultural meaning of signs in a specific context

5. _____ is the phonological process in which a sound becomes similar to a neighbouring sound to make speech easier and faster.
- (a) Assimilation (b) Elision
(c) Metathesis (d) Syllabification
6. Who introduces the theory of Generative Grammar?
- (a) Ferdinand de Saussure
(b) Noam Chomsky
(c) Charles Hockett
(d) Leonard Bloomfield
7. Which type of computers is commonly used by students for learning purposes?
- (a) Micro Computers (b) Mainframes
(c) Workstations (d) Servers
8. What does software in computing refer to?
- (a) The physical components of a computer
(b) The programmes and instructions that direct hardware
(c) External storage devices
(d) Networking components

9. A simplified form of language that is created spontaneously as a means of communication between the speakers of different languages is called
- (a) Creole (b) Pidgin
(c) Idiolect (d) Dialect
10. What is meant by 'Simultaneous Bilingualism'?
- (a) When a person learns two languages after the age of five
(b) When a person speaks one language fluently but understands others
(c) When a person learns two languages at the same time, typically from early childhood
(d) When a person learns a second language after establishing their first language

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Explain the significance of Social Interaction Source theory in the origin of language.
- Or
- (b) Explain how 'Valuability' is observed as one of the universal characteristics of language.

12. (a) Discuss Holmes's concept of 'Broadcast Media as a Site of Power and Technology.

Or

- (b) How does Solomonick analyze the concept of signs in his essay?
13. (a) Explain Saussure's concept of the linguistic sign that underpins the structural theory.

Or

- (b) Explain Chomsky's concept of Transformational Grammar.
14. (a) Discuss the significance of programming languages in computing.

Or

- (b) How does Roach explain the concept of storage and management in computers?
15. (a) Explain the concept of 'idiolect' and how it differs from 'dialect'.

Or

- (b) What are the challenges and future directions in the field of Computational Linguistics (CL) and Natural Language Processing (NLP)?

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Explain how George Yule brings out the importance of various theories that contribute to the Origin of languages.

Or

- (b) As linguists, how Ralph Fasold and Jeff Connor Linton explain the properties that are universal to all languages in their essay?

17. (a) Describe how David Holmes explores the foundational principles and dynamics of human communication within social and cultural contexts.

Or

- (b) Analyze the contributions of Abraham Solomonick to the field of Semiotics for the understanding of human communication and culture.

18. (a) Analyze Saussure's concepts of Structural Approach and their impact on the fields beyond Linguistics.

Or

- (b) Explore the concepts of Chomsky regarding the relationship between Syntax and Semantics.

19. (a) Describe Peter Roach's observation on Hardware, Software, Data- storage and Networking in computing system.

Or

- (b) Analyze the impact of network on the society specifically in the field of education.
20. (a) Explain John Howards's observations on Bilingualism and Multilingualism and their types.

Or

- (b) Discuss the role of English as a global *lingua franca* and its influence on regional languages and dialects.
-