

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2013

M.A. LINGUISTICS

[Field of Study Code : LINM (214)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

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Maximum Marks : 100

- Note :** (i) Answer **ten** questions in all, with the following break-up—Section—A is compulsory, *any five* from Section—B and *any two* from Section—C.
- (ii) All the answers **should** be attempted on the answer-scripts.
- (iii) Marks are indicated against each question.

SECTION—A

(Marks : 15)

1. Choose the correct one from the alternatives given below : www.jnuoqp.com

5

- (a) The sentence "She does not like the movie, does she?" is an example of
- (i) a Yes/No question
- (ii) a Wh—question
- (iii) a tag question
- (iv) a tag imperative
- (b) 'He hissed his mistery lectures' is an example of
- (i) assimilation
- (ii) dissimilation
- (iii) spoonerism
- (iv) epenthesis
- (c) An allomorph is a/an
- (i) variant of a morpheme
- (ii) abstract realization of a morpheme
- (iii) class of a morpheme
- (iv) member of a grammatical category

- (d) Phonology, morphology and syntax are
- (i) branches of linguistics
 - (ii) levels of linguistic analysis
 - (iii) parts of language
 - (iv) approaches to linguistic analysis
- (e) Assertion (A) : Language influences writing
Assertion (B) : Writing also influences language
- (i) Both (A) and (B) are true
 - (ii) only (A) is true
 - (iii) only (B) is true
 - (iv) None is true

2. The following sentences are incorrect. Write the correct one : 5
- (a) I am so angry on him.
 - (b) I recommend you eat an apple pie at this restaurant.
 - (c) She met him in Facebook.
 - (d) The milk is good for our health.
 - (e) The knight pulled of his gleaming helmet and we saw his face!
3. Choose the correct answer from alternatives given below in the () parenthesis : 5
- (a) The book she wrote is banned in India. (Active/Passive)
 - (b) Rahul gave a book to Rohit. (Transitive/Intransitive)
 - (c) When you called, I (had had, have had) my breakfast.
 - (d) He (has been, is) the janitor of our school for twenty years.
 - (e) And Gandalf screamed on top of his voice, yelling that no one shall pass! (Direct speech/Indirect speech)

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SECTION—B

(Marks : 55)

4. What is meant by 'sound symbolism' and how does it relate to the property of 'arbitrariness'? 11
5. The majority of the symbols as for example Q, W, E, R, T, Y, U, I, on a keyboard used with a computer or typewriter belong to an alphabetic system. What about the other symbols on the keyboard such as @, #, \$, %, &, *, ?, <, -, +, ||, //, ↑? 11

6. What is a syllable? How do you syllabify the following words?

Extra, central, grasshopper, denationalization, strings, sixth

11

7. How would you group the following languages into pairs which are closely related from a historical point of view?

Rajbanshi, Farsi, Brahui, German, Bodo, Maithili, Russian, Dutch, Pashto, Polish, Dimasha, Dhangar

Mention at least two characteristics of each language family which the above languages belong to.

11

8. In certain contexts it is convenient to be very brief. This puts the onus on the audience to make a sensible interpretation on the basis of context. How might the following be misinterpreted?

11

Context	Language/utterance
(a) Traditional instruction to those attending amateur social function	(i) Ladies bring a plate, men a bottle
(b) Kerbside sign	(ii) No standing
(c) Instruction on bottle of medicine	(iii) Take one teaspoonful after meals. Shake first
(d) Instruction on lettuces	(iv) Wash before eating

9. Pretend the italicized nonsense words in the following sentences are real words of English. Identify which Parts of Speech they are, giving *two* reasons each for your choice : www.jnuueqp.com

11

- (a) (i) The dog *wugged* the ball.
(ii) The dog is *wugging* the ball.
- (b) (i) The tall *blick* sat by the river.
(ii) The *blicks* played in the park.
(iii) Mary sent a present to her *blick*.
- (c) (i) Larry placed the book *za* the table.
(ii) *Za* the table Sam found his glasses.
- (d) (i) A *nork* person walked by the car.
(ii) Mary is very *nork*.
- (e) (i) Anna bought *nace* rare books.
(ii) I liked *nace* of them.
- (f) (i) *Li* cat slept by the fire.
(ii) I bought *li* three interesting books.

10. Personal names have connotations, some evoke a certain era or age group, others a cultural background. How do you feel about the following names? Can they be shortened? 11
- (a) Abraham, Elizabeth, Alice, Solomon, Beatrice, Charles
- (b) Anandita, Saraswati, Narayan, Jahangeer, Swastika, Debabrata
11. Explain the social and cultural aspects of the use of kinship terms in a society, including the terms of reference as well as terms of address. 11
12. How do hearing impaired people communicate with each other? How does their communication system compare with normal people? 11
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SECTION—C
(Marks : 30)
13. Write an essay on any one of the following : 15
- (a) Language and deep regional politics of State formation in post-colonial India
- (b) Speech recognition and forensic linguistics
- (c) Linguistic determinism
- (d) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and his thoughts on linguistic States
- (e) Multilingualism and language diversity in India
14. From a linguistic point of view, there are no good or bad varieties of a language. However, there is a social process called 'language subordination', whereby some varieties are treated as having less value than others. Can you describe how this process works in any social situation you are familiar with? 15
15. Think about thinking. To what extent do you think you think in terms of images and other memories of sensory impressions and to what extent do you think in terms of words? Sometimes you have a concept in mind, you know the word for it, but you cannot find the word in your mental lexicon. Do you have some strategies to getting around the problem? www.jnuetqp.com 15
16. What reasons would you give to support the following statement? 15
- People with high IQs are good language learners.*
- Most mistakes in L2 (second language) are due to the interferences from the L1 (first language).*
- Do you believe that the second language learning is possible with only a focus on function (communication) and no focus on 'grammar'?
17. What do you understand by the terms 'stammering', 'dementia', 'dyslexia', 'autism' and 'braille'? www.jnuetqp.com 15

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ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2011

M.A. LINGUISTICS

021

[Field of Study Code : LINM (214)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

www.jnu8app.com

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : (i) This paper has two Sections—Section—A and Section—B. Both the Sections have to be attempted by the Candidates on the Answer Scripts.

(ii) Answer **seven** questions from Section—A and **two** from Section—B.

SECTION—A

(Marks : 70)

Answer any **seven** questions

The questions are of equal value

- In an English dictionary words beginning with the prefixes -(e.g., impossible, impolite), -(e.g., indelicate, intolerant), -(e.g., irregular) and -(e.g., illegal). What generalizations, if any, can you formulate about the first sound of the words to which *im-*, *in-*, *ir-* and *il-* are prefixed? www.jnu8app.com
- Analyze the following utterances produced by Ruth, a ten-year-old with language problems (from Chiat 2000). How do her sentences differ from those of normal adult speakers? www.jnu8app.com

Ruth's utterances	www.jnu8app.com Reconstruction of targets
(a) <i>Me borrow mum camera.</i>	<i>I'll borrow mum's camera.</i>
(b) <i>I ring you last time.</i>	<i>I rang you last time.</i>
(c) <i>We walk up.</i>	<i>We walked up.</i>
(d) <i>You and me getting married.</i>	<i>You and me are getting married.</i>
(e) <i>Us going on Friday.</i>	<i>We are going on Friday.</i>

- Recent technological developments have led to familiar words being used for new concepts in Internet, the electronic media and so on. Explore why the following words have been chosen for the new items they denote : www.jnu8app.com

<i>mouse</i>	<i>zip</i>	<i>Blackberry</i>	<i>menu</i>
<i>window</i>	<i>surf</i>	<i>icon</i>	<i>web</i>
<i>virus</i>	<i>cookie</i>	<i>wallpaper</i>	<i>Google</i>

4. The following words are instances of deictics. Explain exactly how they are used. What is the crucial dimension of deixis for each of the words? www.jnu88ap.com

- (a) *here/there*
- (b) *come/go*
- (c) *now/then*
- (d) *today/yesterday/tomorrow*

Can you think of any other words in these classes which behave in a similar fashion? Illustrate some deictic categories from your native language.

5. Explain why and how garden-path sentences pose processing problems for sentence comprehension. Consider the following sentences and any others that might be useful in your discussion : www.jnu88ap.com

- (a) *While Mary was mending the sock fell off her lap.*
- (b) *John told the girl that Bill liked about the problem.*
- (c) *Sue gave the man the dog bit the package.*
- (d) *The dealer sold the forgery complained.*

6. Suppose you were holding a pencil in your left hand and you wished to describe it. Discuss the chain of events occurring in the nervous system that would enable you to describe the pencil. www.jnu88ap.com

7. If a speaker were to utter the following sentences, what might that speaker commonly be taken as intending to communicate? Discuss : www.jnu88ap.com

- (a) *Move and I'll shoot!*
- (b) *Move or I'll shoot!*
- (c) *You've been drinking again, have you!*
- (d) *You've been drinking again, haven't you?*
- (e) *Marry my daughter, will you!*
- (f) *Marry my daughter, will you?*
- (g) *What, me worry?*

8. What is a difference between literal and figurative language use? Give at least five everyday, commonplace examples of nonliteral language use. Paraphrase the intended nonliteral interpretation as best you can. www.jnu88ap.com

9. Experimental work has revealed that Chinchillas and Macaque monkeys perceive some speech sounds categorically. Discuss the significance of this for the claims that aspects of the ability to acquire, use and understand language are (a) innate in humans, and (b) specific to humans. www.jnu88app.com
10. Although sounds and meanings of most words in all languages are in 'arbitrary' related, there are some communication systems in which the 'signs' unambiguously reveal their 'meaning'. Describe (or, draw) at least five different signs that directly show what they mean. www.jnu88app.com
11. Write short notes on any four of the following : www.jnu88app.com
Acronyms, Aspiration, Clitics, Case marking, Dialect, Dyslexia, Modal verbs, Metaphor, Mood, Nasalization, Negation, Silent letters, Spoonerism
12. Explain why the following are ungrammatical sentences : www.jnu88app.com
- (a) *The man located.
 - (b) *Jesus wept the apostles.
 - (c) *John is hopeful of his children.
 - (d) *Robert is fond that his children love animals.
 - (e) *The children laughed the man.
 - (f) *Sleepless green ideas sleep furiously.
 - (g) *Diavz a pendrive borrowed Haru from last year.

SECTION—B www.jnu88app.com

(Marks : 30)

Answer any two questions

The questions are of equal value

13. Write an essay on any one of the following : www.jnu88app.com
- (a) English and globalization
 - (b) Language and advertising
 - (c) Language, gender and sexuality
 - (d) Spelling as a social and cultural practice
 - (e) Origin of human language

14. If you are acquainted with a regional, social, or ethnic dialect, list as many features as you can that distinguish this dialect from the so-called standard language. What are some significant differences in pronunciation, vocabulary words and syntax? Why is each language the way it is? www.jnu2009p.com
15. Are languages 'acquired' or 'learned'? What are different stages of language acquisition/learning? What is the evidence that children acquiring language do not simply memorize words and sentences? www.jnu2009p.com
16. Discuss the social and political context of various language movements witnessed in India since Independence. www.jnu2009p.com
17. Can languages be planned? Do you advocate language planning for India? If yes, what kinds of suggestions would you like to give? www.jnu2009p.com
18. What is meant by 'grammar'? Is grammar in language, in the mind or in traditional grammar books? Is 'grammar' necessary for speaking-listening, reading-writing of a language? www.jnu2009p.com

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ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2010

M.A. LINGUISTICS

[Field of Study Code : LINM (21)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Marks : 100

Note : (i) This paper has two Sections—Section—A and Section—B. Both the Sections have to be attempted by the Candidates on the answer scripts.

(ii) Answer **eight** questions in all, selecting **any four** from each Section.

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SECTION—A

(Marks : 20)

Answer any **four** questions

The questions are of equal value

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below choosing the correct one out of a group of options provided at the end of each question :

Human beings have been blessed with the gift of speech. Freedom of speech is something fundamental for which the human mind craves and yearns. Without this freedom, human personality feels curbed, confined and constricted. No man can grow to his fullest stature without freedom of speech and expression. But while almost everybody talks, few people take the trouble of thinking. Talking comes naturally to a human being, but thinking requires mental exertion.

Everybody is gifted with reason, but few persons make use of this faculty. Thinking is, indeed, foreign to most people. The result is that the words are spoken, decisions are taken, and actions are performed by people without any previous thinking. The want of thinking in most of such cases leads to unpleasant and even disastrous consequences. If an individual says or does something thoughtlessly, he may have to pay heavily for it. If a politician makes a speech without giving due thought to what he says, he may cause tumult, an agitation and even a riot. Some people have the gift of the gift but little capacity for thinking. They often blurted out words, without realizing the implications of what they are saying. They are reckless in speech; they are copious in speech; they are glib-tongued; but they are deficient in thinking power. If a mob is excited or inflamed, it will not pause to think; it will merely shout slogans and make a lot of noise. Cool thinking is an essential part of a wise man's mental equipment. Indeed, a wise man speaks less and thinks more. And whatever he speaks is the result of his thinking. But wise men are in a small minority in this world. The world is inhabited largely by talkative people who consider thinking to be an avoidable hardship.

- (a) 'Think before speak' is a set of golden words—how?
(i) You can never act or say something without thinking.

- (ii) One cannot express oneself fully without speech and wise people do not speak without thinking.
 - (iii) Thinking makes a man credible.
 - (iv) It differentiates man from animals.
- (b) Speaking without thinking may sometimes be appalling, for instance
- (i) you may want to say something and utter quite different which may not suit the situation
 - (ii) if a politician speaks without thinking, his speech may result in agitation or even in riots
 - (iii) people may ridicule you
 - (iv) you may speak out what you wanted to conceal

2. Find the odd one out from the following :

- (a) 2, 8, 18, 32, 52, 72
- (b) Motel, brunch, laser, smog, dancercise
- (c) Neam Chomsky, Descartes, Aristotle, Steven Pinker
- (d) Gujarati, Santali, Swahili, Bodo, Hindi, Bengali
- (e) Willy-nilly, tip-top, hoity-toity, sing-sang, nitty-gritty, hocus-pecus

3. Study the following English words and answer the question that follows :

Dislike	Unwind	Report	Distrust
Uncover	Recover	Recur	Unable
Rewrite	Unlock	Taller	Editor
Ex-monk	Disallow	Penniless	Unhappy
Repel liar	Writer	Redraw	Redo

What is the meaning of -er, -or, -ar, ex-, in-, dis-, un-, re- and -less represented in writing?

4. Look at the following data from Chickasaw, a Muskogean language spoken in Oklahoma and answer the following question :

Affirmative	English Gloss	Negative	English Gloss
<i>chokma</i>	'he is good'	<i>ikchokma</i>	'he is not good'
<i>lakna</i>	'it is yellow'	<i>iklakna</i>	'it is not yellow'
<i>tiwwi</i>	'he opens (it)'	<i>iktwwi</i>	'he does not open (it)'

How is the negative construction formed in Chickasaw?

5. Note the sound of 'ea' in 'sea' and 'ou' in 'foul' and give examples of words with the same pronunciation but different spelling.
6. One account of the distribution of nouns like *himself*, *herself*, etc., called anaphora, is that they must agree in person, gender, and number with another noun in the sentence, called its antecedent. This explains why the sentences **He likes herself* and "*Himself came* are ungrammatical. (An asterisk indicates the sentence is ungrammatical.)
- Now, consider the data below. Can you make an addition to the above statement that explains the distribution of anaphors and antecedents in the very limited data below?
- (a) Ram sang to himself.
(b) *Himself sang to Ram.
(c) Betsy loves herself in blue leather.
(d) *Blue leather shows herself that Betsy is pretty.
7. What do the barking of dogs, the meowing of cats, and the singing of birds have in common with human language? What are some of the basic differences?

SECTION—B

(Marks : 80)

Answer any **four** questions

The questions are of equal value

8. Write short notes on the following (any five) :
- Arbitrariness, Code switching, Aphasia, Diglossia, Language faculty, Tone language, Lingua franca, Behaviorism, Turn taking, Affixes, Formulaic language
9. Distinguish between the terms in the following sets, giving examples (any four) :
- (a) Langue and Parole
(b) Stammering and Stuttering
(c) Speech and Writing
(d) Pitch and Loudness
(e) Phoneme and Morpheme
(f) Isolating and Synthetic languages
(g) Stress and Tone
(h) Vowels and Consonants

10. The following sentences are from the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language, an ancient language of Western Asia. Scrolls containing passages in this language were found near the confluence of the Orkhon and Yenisey rivers :

Orkhono-Yeniseyan Sentence	English Gloss
<i>Oghuling baliqigh alti.</i>	'Your son conquered the city.'
<i>Baz oghuligh yangilti.</i>	'The vassal betrayed the son.'
<i>Siz baliqimizin buzdingiz.</i>	'You (pl) destroyed our city.'
<i>Qaghanimiz oghulingin yangilti.</i>	'Our king betrayed your (sg) son.'
<i>Oghulim barqingin buzdi.</i>	'My son destroyed your (sg) house.'
<i>Siz qaghanigh yangiltingiz.</i>	'You (pl) betrayed the king.'
<i>Biz baliqigh altimiz.</i>	'We conquered the city.'
<i>Bazim qaghanimizin yangilti.</i>	'My vassal betrayed our king.'

- (a) Translate the following into English (Yes, you can figure out what *men* means!) :
- Qaghan baliqigh alti.*
Men barqigh buzdim.
- (b) Translate into the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language :
- The son conquered your city.
The king betrayed the vassal.
Your vassal destroyed my house.

11. How many languages are spoken in India and how are they related to each other? What is meant by language family? How many language families are represented in India?
12. What is language death? Why do languages die? What can be done to prevent language death?
13. Is the present writing system used by young people, especially in sms writing, in e-mail and in chat killing English language? If so, what remedies appear to be in sight in your opinion?
14. Write a general essay on Indian English and its characteristic features in relation to native Englishes.
15. What is the relationship between language and knowledge? Can there be knowledge without language, or language without knowledge? What is meant by truth?

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2009

M.A. LINGUISTICS

[Field of Study Code : LINM (175)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

- Note :** (i) This paper has three Sections—Section—A, Section—B and Section—C. All the Sections have to be attempted by the Candidates on the answer scripts.
- (ii) Answer **fifteen** questions in all, selecting **two** from Section B and **three** from Section C. All **ten** questions in Section A are compulsory

SECTION—A

(Marks : 10)

Answer **all** questions

The questions are of equal value

1. Choose the correct statement from the following :
 - (a) Only some languages have grammars.
 - (b) People must be taught the grammatical rules of their language.
 - (c) All the languages have grammars and even the dialects have grammars.
 - (d) Grammars differ from each other in unpredictable ways.
 - (e) Illiterate/Uneducated speakers do not know the grammars of their languages.
2. According to you which of the following statements holds true about a linguist?
 - (a) A linguist is someone who is good at speaking and learning foreign languages.
 - (b) A linguist is someone who studies or teaches linguistics or does research on language(s).
 - (c) A linguist is someone who knows so many languages.
 - (d) A linguist is someone who has the profound knowledge of classical languages, as for example, Sanskrit, Latin, Greek, etc.
3. In this question there are two statements followed by several conclusions. Choose the best one after applying logical reasoning. These statements may be at variance from the commonly known facts :
 - (i) All men are liable to commit mistakes.
 - (ii) All priests are men.

Conclusions :

 - (a) All priests are liable to commit mistakes
 - (b) Committing mistake is human
 - (c) Some priests do not commit mistake
 - (d) None of the above

4. Which of the following are scheduled languages in the Constitution? Select them from the list given below :

Bhojpuri ; Bodo ; Rajbanshi ; Maithili ; Adi ; Khasia ; Dogri ; Angami ; Balti ;
Chang ; Dimasha ; English ; Santhali ; Konkani.

5. In a certain code language, SOME is coded as 4285; HOTEL is coded as 92751 and MOTOR is coded as 82723. Choose the correct code for MOTELS from the following :

- (a) 271548
(b) 827514
(c) 875142
(d) 941572

6. If the fourth Saturday of a month is the 22nd day, what day is the 13th of the month?

- (a) Tuesday
(b) Wednesday
(c) Thursday
(d) Friday

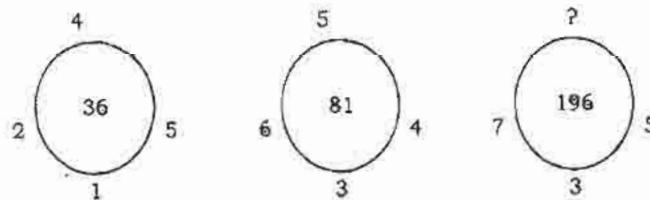
7. Certain words/terms are given below. Pick out the odd one :

- (a) Reading, Writing, Breathing, Jumping, Swimming
(b) AIDS, NATO, UCLA, IPL, NASA

8. India represents five-language families. Choose the correct list :

- (a) Germanic, Dravidian, Indo-Iranian, Indo-Aryan, Tibeto-Burman
(b) Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic, Tibeto-Burman, Andamanese
(c) Dravidian, Munda, Himalayan, Iranian, Indo-Aryan
(d) None of the above

9. (a) In the question given below, a definite relationship exists in the numbers written inside/outside the geometrical figures. Determine the missing number represented by a question mark (?) :



- (b) Look at the following numbers and determine the missing number represented by a question mark(?) :

9, 28, ?, 126, 217

10. The average age of 30 students in a class is 16 years. If the teacher's age is included, the average increases by one. What is the teacher's age?
- (a) 37 years
 (b) 46 years
 (c) 47 years
 (d) 57 years

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SECTION—B

(Marks : 30)

Answer **any two** questions

The questions are of equal value

11. Hawaiian is a Polynesian language, spoken fluently by about 2000 people. The following Hawaiian sentences, with their English translations, are about a girl named Mele and a boy named Keone :

English Translation	Hawaiian Sentence
1. He has seven elder brothers.	<i>ehiku ona kaikuaana.</i>
2. Mele has one brother.	<i>ekahi o Mele kaikunane.</i>
3. Keone has one younger brother.	<i>ekahi o Keone kaikaina.</i>
4. Mele has no elder sisters.	<i>aohe o Mele kaikuaana.</i>
5. Keone has no sisters.	<i>aohe o Keone kaikuahine.</i>
6. I have one canoe.	<i>ekahi ou waa.</i>
7. Mele has no younger sisters.	<i>aohe o Mele kaikaina.</i>

- (a) There are two possible English translations for the following Hawaiian sentence. What are they?
aohe ou kaikuaana.
- (b) Translate the following sentence into English and indicate who is speaking, Mele or Keone :
aohe ou kaikuahine.
- (c) The following English sentences would be difficult to translate directly into Hawaiian. Explain why this is true :
 Keone has one brother.
 Mele has one younger brother.

12. Explain how the differences in the category and meaning of the underlined words are exploited in the following sentences :

- (a) Time flies like an arrow.
Fruit flies like a banana.
- (b) Can he can me for kicking the can?
- (c) I saw a saw to saw.

13. There are two Columns—Column 1 and Column 2. In Column 2 all the resulting words are usually ill-formed. Using your intuition and knowledge of English, explain why these words are ill-formed :

Column 1	Column 2
Unwell	*unill
Unhappy	*unsad
Unwise	*unfoolish
Unclean	*unfilthy, *undirty
Unoptimistic	*unpessimistic
Silly	*sillily
Good	*goeder
Child, ox	*childs, *oxes

14. Look at the following the underlined letter(s) of the English words and analyse inconsistencies and ambiguities in the writing systems of English Language. Is the writing system of your mother tongue full of ambiguities such as these? Explain by giving examples :

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Sea	all	lock	knew
See	about	that	doubt
Scene	apple	book	though
Receive	any	boast	island
Thief	age	shop	moose
Amoeba		apply	calm
Aesop		special	chalk

SECTION—C

(Marks : 60)

Answer any three questions

The questions are of equal value

15. Why is language considered unique to human beings? Can you identify some features which make us different from other species in the area of communication?
16. What is the Three-Language Formula? Has this been successful in India? Discuss.
17. Is it necessary for any language to have a distinct script for its identity? Justify your answer by giving examples from Indian and European languages.
18. How do you think little babies acquire their mother tongue from their environment? Is there any difference in the process of acquisition if the child is exposed to two or more languages in their early years?
19. Have you seen two deaf people communicating with each other? Do you think their language, i.e., Sign Language is as effective a means of communication as any spoken/written language?
20. What is meant by 'a language'? Why are languages always changing? Is there any correspondence between the changes in languages and changes in the modes of living of peoples? Explain.

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ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2008

M.A. LINGUISTICS

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Answer in all **nine** questions, selecting *any four* each from Sections A and B, and *any one* from Section C

SECTION—A

(Marks : 60)

The questions are of equal value

1. The following statements are known to be misconceptions about language. Discuss how in your opinion they express misconceptions :
 - (a) Some languages are pure; a lot of languages are impure and hybrid.
 - (b) Every language does not have a grammar.
2. Show how linguistics can be useful in one of the following areas :
 - (a) Analysis of literary texts
 - (b) Translation of texts
 - (c) Language technology
3. Explain the following dichotomous terms :
 - (a) Synchronic and diachronic study of language
 - (b) Descriptive grammar and prescriptive grammar
4. Define the following terms and give an example for each :
compound word ; suffix ; complex sentence ; diphthong ; antonyms.
5. Explain what you understand by the expression 'knowledge of language'. Briefly illustrate the different aspects of the knowledge of language.
6. The language you learnt from your guardians differs in many ways from English. Throw light on the differences between your first language and English in at least four different aspects.
7. Write a general essay on language as a symbolic system.

SECTION—B

(Marks : 20)

The questions are of equal value

8. People should be held accountable for their own behavior, and if holding people accountable for their own behavior entails capital punishment, then so be it. However, no person should be held accountable for behavior over which he or she had no control. Which of the following is the most logical conclusion of the argument above?
- (a) People should not be held accountable for the behavior of other people.
 - (b) People have control over their own behavior.
 - (c) People cannot control the behavior of other people.
 - (d) Behavior that cannot be controlled should not be punished.
 - (e) People have control over behavior that is subject to capital punishment.
9. Is it wrong for doctors to lie about their patients' illnesses? Aren't doctors just like any other people we hire to do a job for us? Surely, we would not tolerate not being told the truth about the condition of our automobile from the mechanic we hired to fix it, or the condition of our roof from the carpenter we employed to repair it. Just as these workers would be guilty of violating their good faith contracts with us if they were to do this, doctors who lie to their patients about their illnesses violate these contracts as well, and this is clearly wrong. The conclusion of the argument is best expressed by which of the following?
- (a) Doctors who lie to their patients about their illnesses violate their good faith contracts with their patients.
 - (b) Doctors often lie to their patients about their illnesses.
 - (c) Doctors are just hired workers like mechanics and carpenters.
 - (d) It is wrong for doctors to lie about their patients' illnesses.
 - (e) Doctors, like mechanics and carpenters, enter into good faith contracts with us when we hire them.
10. Cars are safer than planes. Fifty percent of plane accidents result in death, while only one percent of car accidents result in death. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the argument above?
- (a) Planes are inspected more often than cars.
 - (b) The number of car accidents is several hundred thousand times higher than the number of plane accidents.
 - (c) Pilots never fly under the influence of alcohol, while car drivers often do.
 - (d) Plane accidents are usually the fault of air traffic controllers, not pilots.
 - (e) Planes carry more passengers than cars do.

11. Circle the anomalous items in the following lists :

- (a) cat, dog, cow, horse, hen, tiger
- (b) pick, as, has, did, wait, like
- (c) 5, 7, 11, 19, 21
- (d) paper, driver, potter, writer, shorter
- (e) think, laugh, believe, suppose, wonder

12. Shugnan, also known as Shugni, is an Indo-Iranian language spoken in Tajikistan and Afghanistan. The Indo-Iranian languages are part of the Indo-European family, so Shugnan is distantly related to English. There are approximately 40000 speakers altogether. Here are some phrases in Shugnan and their translations into English :

- kuzaa hats—jar of water
- chalak zimaadj—bucket of dirt
- tambal byuyun—beard of a lazybones
- biig dyuyunaa—pot of corn
- kuzaa gjev—lid of a jar
- beechoraa zimaadj—dirt of a beggar

Now, translate the following into Shugnan :

- bucket of water
- pot of water
- jar of a lazybones

13. Given the meanings against the words in the following data from the language 'Pinci', belonging to the language family 'Dunno', state the meanings of the forms.

tim	'hit!'
tim ta	'hits (masc.)'
tim te	'hits (fem.)'
tim le	'may hit (fem.)'
tim ka	'has hit (masc.)'
tim pe	'will hit (fem.)'
mit	'eat!'
tan ta	'wakes up (masc.)'

In addition, give the forms for the following meanings:

'may eat (fem.)' and 'will wake up (masc.)'

SECTION—C

(Marks : 20)

14. What are the problems faced by India on account of it being a multilingual country? What remedies appear to be in sight in your opinion? What are the strengths of India as a multilingual country?
15. Critically discuss the relation between language and society or between language and mind.

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ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2007

M.A. LINGUISTICS

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Answer any **five** questions

All questions carry equal marks

1. Discuss the language situation in India with special reference to Education, Administration and Law.
2. Discuss the relationship between language and thought. Can there be thought without language or language without thought? Are there differences in the thoughts of people who speak different languages? Elaborate.
3. Discuss the similarities and differences between—
 - (a) spoken language and written language;
 - (b) sign language and braille language;
 - (c) telegraphic language and SMS language;
 - (d) poetic language and scientific language.
4. Discuss the relationship between—
 - (a) language and nation;
 - (b) language and technology;

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- (c) language and religion;
 (d) language and culture;
 (e) language and self.
5. Does every language have a grammar? Is grammar an advantage or a constraint in speaking or writing a language? What is the relationship between grammar and style?
6. Write brief notes on each term of the following pairs, highlighting the differences between them :
- (a) Language and dialect
 (b) Stuttering and stammering
 (c) Vowels and consonants
 (d) Music and noise
 (e) Accent and intonation
7. Does an infant learn a language in the same way as a foreigner learns the same language? What are the advantages and constraints in the processes of language learning of an infant and a foreigner? Describe.
8. Explain the following pairs of terms :
- (a) metaphor and metonymy
 (b) image and diagram
 (c) alphabetic and ideographic writing
 (d) denotation and connotation
9. What is meant by a 'language family'? Are language families organized like human families? What are the major language families of (a) the world; (b) India? Are linguistic features shared both within and across language families? Discuss.
10. Languages play a role, not only in the objective and subjective descriptions of the world, but also in establishing and maintaining relations between persons within and across communities. Discuss the modes of language use that can promote peace and well-being of the people of the world.