



LanCSAL Department
June 2020 Examination

MODULE:	Linguistics 1A (LIN1AA1 and LINEXA1)
PAPER:	Linguistics
DATE:	19 June 2020
EXAMINERS:	Mrs B Selepe Mrs T Mphahlele
MODERATOR:	Dr J Chikasha
MARKS:	200
TIME:	3 hours

This paper consists of seven (7) pages. Answer ALL questions. Where examples are required, please use own examples (i.e. *different from examples given in lecture slides*).

SECTION A

Question 1

In an academic essay, explain the **natural sound**; **tool-making**; **physical adaptation**, and **social interaction** theories of the origins of human language. In addition to your explanation, also provide one **argument supporting** the theory, and one **criticism** for each theory.

[16]

Question 2

Of the six theories on the origins of language, choose **one** that you most agree with and explain why you agree with it. Start off by describing the theory.

[5]

Question 3

Explain, in a sentence or two, why we can argue that the chimpanzee **Washoe's** use of language displayed the feature of **productivity**.

[5]

Question 4

Explain, in a sentence or two, why we can argue that the chimpanzee **Sarah's** use of language displayed the feature of **arbitrariness**.

[5]

Question 5

In a short essay, discuss the differences between human speech and animal communication systems. Distinguish between **communicative** and **informative signals**.

[8]

Question 6

Describe **displacement**, **duality** and **cultural transmission**, as three of the six unique properties of human language. Provide appropriate **examples** for each description.

[6]

Question 7

What kind of writing are the images below an example of?



[5]

Question 8

Give any **three reasons** why there are often **mismatches** between the forms of written English and the sounds of spoken English.

[6]

Question 9

In a short paragraph, and in your own words, describe how **voiced** and **voiceless** sounds are produced. Provide an **example** of each type of sound.

[4]

Question 10

Name any four **places of speech articulation** of consonants. Explain **where** the relevant sounds are formed and provide an **example** of each.

[12]

Question 11

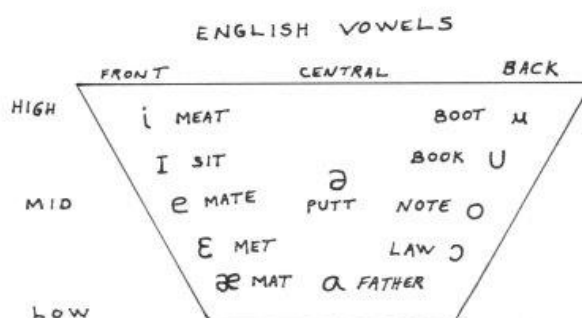
Name four **manners of speech articulation** of consonants. Explain **how** the relevant sounds are formed and provide an **example** of each.

[12]

Question 12

Using the English vowel chart below and the words provided as examples, provide another English word that contains each of the sounds listed below:

- i. [i]
- ii. [ɛ]
- iii. [o]
- iv. [ə]
- v. [æ]
- vi. [ɔ]
- vii. [ɑ]
- viii. [ʊ]



[16]

Question 13

Using the IPA chart below, write the phonetic symbol for the **underlined sound** made in each of the following words. You can copy and paste the symbols from the phonetic characters provided with the chart if you cannot use your keyboard.

ɪ READ	ɪ SIT	ʊ BOOK	uː TOO	ɪə HERE	eɪ DAY	John & Sarah Free Materials 1996	
e MEN	ə AMERICA	ɜː WORD	ɔː SORT	ʊə TOUR	ɔɪ BOY	əʊ GO	
æ CAT	ʌ BUT	ɑː PART	ɒ NOT	eə WEAR	aɪ MY	aʊ HOW	
p FIG	b BED	t TIME	d DO	tʃ CHURCH	dʒ JUDGE	k KILO	g GO
f FIVE	v VERY	θ THINK	ð THE	s SIX	z ZOO	ʃ SHORT	ʒ CASUAL
m MILK	n NO	ŋ SING	h HELLO	l LIVE	r READ	w WINDOW	j YES

ʌ ɑː æ e ə ɜː ɪ iː ɒ ɔː ʊ uː aɪ
aʊ eɪ oʊ ɔɪ eə ɪə ʊə b d f g
h j k l m n ŋ p r s ʃ t tʃ θ ð v
w z ʒ dʒ

- (a) Measure
- (b) Neighh
- (c) Watchh
- (d) Music
- (e) Thirsty

[10]

Question 14

What is the difference between a **phone** and an **allophone**? Provide **own example** of each to further illustrate your answer.

[4]

Question 15

Explain, in a few sentences, what **elision** is and when does it occur. Provide your **own example** of a word that typically undergoes elision during pronunciation.

[3]

Question 16

Explain, in a few sentences, what **assimilation** is and when it occurs. Provide your **own example** of a word that typically undergoes assimilation during pronunciation.

[3]

Question 17

According to which **word formation processes** are the following words formed?

- (i) shampoo
- (ii) bittersweet
- (iii) movie
- (iv) hoover
- (v) brunch

[5]

Question 18

Using your own words, choose any two of the **word formation processes** listed below and explain how new words are created in a language by way of these processes. Provide suitable examples in each case.

- (i) Clipping
- (ii) Borrowing
- (iii) Compounding
- (iv) Blending
- (v) Eponym

[4]

Question 19

The sentence below contains free morphemes. Categorise all the **free morphemes** in the sentence below as either **lexical** or **functional morphemes**.

The man stands near the table next to the window.

[10]

Question 20

In the sentence below, indicate which morphemes are **derivational** and which are **inflectional**. The morphemes you have to classify are underlined. Remember, derivational morphemes are used to make new words of a different grammatical category from the stem. Inflectional morphemes indicate aspects of grammatical function.

Her happiness gives him the fulfilment he longed for since childhood.

[3]

Question 21

Discuss the **prescriptive** and the **descriptive** approaches to grammar in a short essay. Explain the **origins** of both approaches, their respective **aims**, and how linguists adhering to either approach go about **analysing** language.

[10]

Question 22

The following sentence provide an example of **structural ambiguity**:

He gave her cat food.

Use it to define and explain the concept of structural ambiguity.

[4]

Question 23

What is the difference between **conceptual** and **associative meaning**? Use the corona virus as an example to illustrate each concept.

[4]

Question 24

What is the **lexical relation** between the pairs of words listed below?

- (a) damp/moist
- (b) furniture/table
- (c) married/single
- (d) peace/piece
- (e) stable/stable
- (f) head/head (of a department)
- (g) needle and thread
- (h) to/too/two
- (i) young/old
- (j) ham and cheese

[10]

Question 25

Identify the **semantic roles** (agent, theme, instrument, experiencer, location, source, and goal) in the following paragraph:

As Nthabiseng sat at her desk colouring in her picture using wax crayons, the wind came in from the window and blew the picture away. She felt so sad, as she had been working on it all day. A

few minutes later, her brother, Thabang, came running in. "Don't worry", he said. "I found your picture. The wind only blew it from the window to the garden".

[7]

Question 26

Consider the following sentence: ***The television drank my water.***

While the sentence is syntactically correct, it is **semantically odd**. Explain why this is so by using semantic features.

[3]

Save all your answers in SECTION A, SUBMIT, then attempt SECTION B.

SECTION B

Question 27

Use Ms Word OR a pen and a piece of paper to draw a labelled diagram explaining the basic structure of the syllable 'wrong'. Once done, upload the Ms Word document; or take a picture using your phone or tablet and upload under this question. You can also scan your drawing, save it as a PDF and thereafter, upload under LINGUISTICS1/ JUNE EXAM/ SECTION B27 folder.

[10]

Question 28

Use Ms Word OR a pen and a piece of paper to draw a tree diagram illustrating the syntactic structure of one the following sentence:

"My grandmother cooked a delicious lunch."

Once done, upload the Ms Word document; or take a picture using your phone or tablet and upload under this question. You can also scan your drawing, save it as a PDF and thereafter, upload under LINGUISTICS1/ JUNE EXAM/ SECTION B28 folder.

[10]