

Course 01-

Phonetics & English Phonology

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- Structure of Question Paper
- Q.1 An essay type question with internal choice on Unit I---15 Marks
- Q.2 a) Short answer type of question on Unit II A---- 07 Marks
 b) Three term label 08 Marks
- Q.3 a) Short answer type of question on Unit III A 07 Marks
 b) Phonetic transcription of 08 words 08 Marks
- Q.4 a) Short answer type of question on Unit IV (A+ B) 07 Marks
 b) Phonetic transcription of 08 sentences 08 Marks
- Q.5 An essay type question with internal choice on Unit V 15 Marks

- How do we take language?
- Language of mathematics
- Language of deaf and dumb
- Dancing language of bee
- Language of dots and dashes
- Code language
- Mind your language/ look at his language
- Enticing language of woman's eyes

Language and A language

- Definitions of Language:
- 1) Patanjali, an ancient linguist of India says, “ Language is that human expression which is uttered out by speech organs
- 2) J. Whatmough states, “ Language is human... a verbal systematic symbolism... a means of transmitting information... a form of social behaviour... (with a) high degree of convention.”
- 3) Henry Sweet stated: “Language is the expression of ideas by means of speech-sounds combined into words.
- 4) The American linguists Bernard Bloch and George L. Trager formulated the following definition: “A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group cooperates.”
- 5) A language is device that establishes sound-meaning correlations, pairing meanings with signals to enable people to exchange ideas through observable sequence of sounds.
(Ronald W. Langakar, Language and its structure, 1967)

- 6) Encyclopedia of Britannica (Vol. 13) “ Language is a system of conventional , spoken or written symbols by means of which human beings , as members of a social group and participants in its culture, communicate.”
- 7)R. H. Robins (General Linguistics) “ A language is a symbol system... based on pure or arbitrary conventions... infinitely extendable and modifiable according to the changing needs and conditions of the speakers”
- 8)A system of communication by sound, i. e. through the organs of speech and hearing, among human beings of a certain group or community, using vocal symbols possessing arbitrary conventional meanings. (*Mario A. Pei and Frank Gaynor, Dictionary of Linguistics, 1954.*)
- 9)Language is audible, articulate human speech as produced by the action tongue and adjacent vocal organs...The body of words and methods of combining words used and understood by a considerable community, specially, when fixed and elaborated by long usage; a tongue.(*Webster’s New International Dictionary 2nd edition*)
- 10)T. G. Grammarian- Noam Chomsky, “ Language is the innate capacity of native speakers to understand and form grammatical sentences”

- Who takes it as...?
 - Anthropologists consider it as a form of cultural behaviour
 - Sociologists – interaction between the members of a social group
 - Students of literature- an artistic medium
 - Philosophers- means of interpreting human experience
 - Language teachers- as a set of skills
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- Definitional problem- It is difficult to put language at a single level as knowledge/ behaviour/ skill/ habit/ an object etc
 - None of the above definitions is complete/ perfect but they hint at one or the other characteristics of language

- Theories of origin of language
- Devine origin
- **Ding-Dong: onomatopoeia**
- **Pooh-pooh:** sighs of pleasure, moans of pain, and other semi-involuntary cries or exclamations
- **Ta-ta: oral gestures from hand gestures**
- **Bow-wow:** animal sounds
- **Yo-he-ho: rhythmic chants and vocalisms**

- **Characteristics/ features/ Properties of language**
- 1) **Language is verbal, vocal:** language is sound- organised sounds/ No writing script still language exist
- Sound= word= phrase= sentence/ utterance
- 2) **language is a means of communication-** most powerful, convenient and permanent means. Non-linguistic symbols also communicate but have limited dimension. They are non-flexible and non- extensive as language is
- 3) **Language is a social phenomenon:** it is a set of conventional communicative signals used by humans to communicate amongst a social group. It is a possession of that social group. It is also a means of nourishing and developing its culture. We learn language as a member of the society. If language is not used in a society it dies.

4) Language is non-instinctive, conventional:

not a days creation but a result of evolution and convention.

Transmission through generation.

It is non-instinctive because it is acquired by humans.

Non- inherited. Human' s have inborn ability to acquire language but animals inherit language

- 5) *Arbitrariness*

- no natural connection between a linguistic form and its meaning=
arbitrary relationship
- Signifier vs signified
- Dog in English and other words in different languages (Kukkar/
Kutra/ Kutta/nai/ kukka/ chien/hund/ etc)



- 6) **Language is symbolic**: system of arbitrary vocal symbols
sound= word== conventional meaning
- 7) **Language is systematic**: system of systems (phonological/
morphological/ grammatical/ syntactical and semantical)
the ed fulbeauti chase girl brown the dog
The beautiful girl chased the brown dog
linear and hierarchical arrangement of symbols
finite symbols but infinite ways of arranging them
- 8) **Language is unique, creative, complex and modifiable**:
No other planet has language
Language universals exist but still they are different
It is creative and very productive
Modifiable according to the changing needs and
circumstances

- 9) Language is both linguistic and communicative competence:

language is a set of psychological principles and sociological considerations that constitute person's competence

It is not just a verbal behaviour but a system of rules

Language is just a code and very different from the act of encoding

we use language according to the occasion and the context

- 10) Language is human and structurally complex:
- No other species is seen using language
- Animals can not acquire human language due to its structural complexity and physical inadequacies
- Human language is open ended, extendable and modifiable

- **11) Duality of patterning:** Patterning happens at two levels
 - 1) at the level of sound / p, l, n/ are the sounds in English and their combination can result in pin/ nip as a word
 - 2) at the level of words- they enter into relationship at a higher level to form next linguistic unit.
- **John gave Mary a pen (this information we can present in different ways)**
- **12) Creativity:** we can produce and understand any number of sentences in the language
- **Chomsky – Competence vs Performance**
- **13) Displacement:** Human beings can talk about experiences without actually living them
 - Past/ present/ future
 - Context free talk/ story telling/ telling lies/ lip prayer/ taunts

- 14) **Redundancy: (unwanted repetition)**
- John gave Mary a book on Linguistics yesterday
- (passive/ fronting/ cleft)
- Two ways of asking question
- 1) word order
- 2) intonation
- **15) Culture preserving and culture transmitting:**
- Culture is highly reflected in language
- Die/expire/ collapse /pass away/left for heavenly abode/joined the heavenly choir/kick the bucket
- Reflection of Indian culture
- Hindi/Marathi ways of address

Animal Communication

- Most animals have inter and intra species communication
- Both non-discrete and discrete (bee dance/monkey)
- Limited messages with limited dimension
- Lack of structural complexity
- Humans learn language as social interaction but animals inherit the language
- No mimicry, joke or ambiguity (animals don't tell lies)
- Organs of speech is a rare gift to humans

Difference

Human Language	Animal Communication System
Unlimited and infinite	Limited and finite
Open system	Closed system
Extendable and modifiable	Unextendable and Unmodifiable
Flexible and full of variety	Inflexible and without variety
Non-instinctive	Instinctive

Difference...

Acquired

Conditioned by geography

Full of novelty and creativity

Has grammaticality

Cognitive as well as behavioural

Descriptive and narrative

Inherited

Not conditioned by geography

Bereft of novelty and creativity

No grammaticality

Only behavioural

Non-descriptive and non-narrative

Thank you

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