

(For Roll Nos. starting with 20)
THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD 500 007



SCHOOL OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
M.A. English (Part I)

Course II: INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

ASSIGNMENT 1

(Based on Blocks I & II)

(This assignment has 02 printed pages)

- I. Explain with the help of examples the notion of 'arbitrariness' and 'specialisation' in language.
- II. Say whether the following statements are *True* or *False*. If *False*, correct the statement.
- Linguistics is not a scientific study of language.
 - Studying a language is the same as learning a language.
 - Syntax is the study of sounds and words.
 - A study of history of English language will be a synchronic study.
- III. Identify the word with the odd vowel sound (three words have the same vowel sound) in the following sets of words:
- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| a. <u>bow</u> l | <u>ba</u> ll | <u>bo</u> at | <u>bo</u> ne |
| b. <u>se</u> w | <u>si</u> eve | <u>si</u> n | <u>si</u> ck |
| c. <u>ba</u> t | <u>na</u> p | <u>ne</u> igh | <u>gn</u> at |
- IV. Identify the word with the odd consonant sound (three words have the same consonant sound) among the underlined sounds in the following sets of words:
- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| a. <u>c</u> inema | <u>s</u> ing | <u>ch</u> ore | <u>c</u> ivet |
| b. <u>ch</u> annel | <u>ch</u> urch | <u>ch</u> eer | <u>ch</u> arade |
| c. <u>w</u> ine | <u>v</u> ine | <u>v</u> iew | <u>v</u> ain |
- V. Given below are some words in phonemic transcription. Read the transcribed words and write them in orthography (ordinary spelling):
- bʌd
 - bed
 - bɔ:d
 - bɜ:d
 - brɛd

VI. Match each symbol with its corresponding description.

a	/h/	a. front, between half open and open, unrounded vowel
b	/u/	b. voiced, post alveolar, frictionless continuant
c	/æ/	c. voiceless, labio-dental, fricative
d	/r/	d. voiceless, glottal, fricative
e	/m/	e. voiced, bilabial, nasal
f	/f/	f. back, rounded vowel, just above half close position

VII. Mark word accent on the following words:

- a. tomato
- b. engineer
- c. character
- d. destruction
- e. themselves
- f. about

VIII. a. Divide the following sentences into *tone-groups*. Indicate the *tone group boundary* with an oblique bar and mark *accent*.

Thus, every time we speak, at the subconscious level, we are making choices. We decide where to pause or take a breath; we decide which word is the most important word with reference to the meaning we are trying to convey.

b. Mark the correct *tone* and *accent* for the following utterances. (Mark the tone on the underlined word. The intended function of each sentence is given in brackets.) Remember to mark accent on all the content words.

1. Who can help me? (wh-question asked in a matter-of-fact way)
2. They are beautiful. / Aren't they? (forcing the listener to agree)
3. May I come in? (polite request)
4. Oh, / how lovely! (exclamation)
5. Be careful! (concern)

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ASSIGNMENT 2
(Based on Block III)

(This assignment has only 01 printed page)

I. State which word-building processes the following words illustrate:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| a. attending | d. pitter-patter |
| b. hangry | e. sunflower |
| c. gator | f. FBI |

II. State whether the distribution in the following pairs is contrastive or complementary:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. { slip }
{ clip } | b. { pen }
{ p ^h en } | c. { pool }
{ tool } |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|

III. State where in the following words the sounds [p, t, k] are aspirated:

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| a. clap | c. actor |
| b. appoint | d. target |

IV. Identify the word-form(s) which belong(s) to the same lexeme:

- | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|
| talk | listen | talking |
| listened | talked | listening |
| talks | listens | run |

V. Identify all the morphemes in the following sentence:

If I were her, I would have danced all night.

VI. How is the plural morpheme realized in each of the following words?

girls, books, bushes

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ASSIGNMENT 3

(Based on Block IV)

(This assignment has only 01 printed page)

- I. a. Draw a tree diagram for each of the sentences given below. (You should keep on dividing the constituents until you reach the word level.)
1. An architect is someone who designs buildings.
 2. His wife thought that he was very ill.
 3. It had been raining.
- b. Formulate a set of phrase structure rules for the sentences given above (i.e. 1-3). (You should formulate only one set of rules for all the three sentences taken together, not one set of rules for each sentence.)
- II. Give the argument structure of the verbs in the sentences given below:
1. Words cannot describe the beauty of the scene.
 2. Have you read her latest book?
 3. I don't think he knows English.

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ASSIGNMENT 4

(Based on Block V)

(This assignment has only 01 printed page)

1. Distinguish between formal and consultative styles.
 - 1a. Give an example each of formal and consultative styles.
2. Distinguish between regional and social dialects.
 - 2a. Give an example each of regional and social dialects.
3. **Speaker 1:** Where are you going?
Speaker 2: I am going for a movie.
Speaker 3: Which one?
Speaker 2: Last night, I was sleeping while watching *The Big Fight* on NDTV.
In the above conversations,
 - a. Identify conversation(s) where a maxim has been violated.
 - b. Which maxim has been violated? Identify the conversation(s) and the speaker who has violated the maxim.
 - c. Identify conversation(s) where a maxim has been followed.
4. The statement *My subordinate pretends to like me* is an example of _____ presupposition.
5. Which is the most important criterion for diglossia?
 - 5a. Why is this criterion the most important factor in a diglossic speech community?
