

# 靜宜大學 103 學年度碩士班招生考試試題

學系：英國語文學系

科目：語言學概論

## Part I: Multiple-choice questions – Choose the correct answer (50%)

1. Language is generally defined as a system of \_\_\_\_\_ that allow for communication with others.
  - (a) Images
  - (b) Vocalizations
  - (c) Symbols
  - (d) Words
  
2. What is morphology?
  - (a) The study of sounds
  - (b) The study of sentence structure
  - (c) The study of internal structure of words
  - (d) The study of meaning
  
3. What is the study of semantics?
  - (a) The study of language and society
  - (b) The study of sound patterns
  - (c) The study of internal structure of words
  - (d) The study of meaning
  
4. The sound system of a language is referred to as:
  - (a) Phonology
  - (b) Morphology
  - (c) Syntax
  - (d) Semantics
  
5. What is the term describing the smallest unit of linguistic meaning or function?
  - (a) Discourse
  - (b) Morpheme
  - (c) Phoneme
  - (d) Phone
  
6. Our linguistic knowledge includes knowing several components of the language. In the following, which is NOT part of our linguistic knowledge?
  - (a) Knowledge of sentence structure
  - (b) Knowledge of sounds
  - (c) Knowledge of words
  - (d) Knowledge of writing

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7. In the following, which is NOT a true statement about syntax?
  - (a) Syntactic rules specify finite number of sentences that the speakers of a language can produce.
  - (b) The rules of syntax specify the grammatical relations of a sentence.
  - (c) Syntactic rules specify constraints that sentences must follow.
  - (d) All native speakers have intuitive grammatical judgments.
8. In the following, which term refers to 'our internal knowledge of a language'?
  - (a) Competence
  - (b) Performance
  - (c) Language universal
  - (d) Linguistic relativity
9. In the following, which is NOT a true statement about allophones?
  - (a) Allophones are different realizations of a phoneme.
  - (b) Allophones of a phoneme are in complementary distribution.
  - (c) Most phonemes have more than one allophone.
  - (d) There is no rule specifying the distribution of allophones.
10. In the following, which best describes the English language?
  - (a) English has complex morphology and rigid sentence order
  - (b) English has simple morphology and rigid sentence order
  - (c) English has complex morphology and flexible sentence order
  - (d) English has simple morphology and flexible sentence order
11. The major difference between dialect and accent lies in difference in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) pronunciation
  - (b) vocabulary
  - (c) syntax
  - (d) semantics
12. In the following, which statement describes a feature of creoles?
  - (a) Pidgins do not have native speakers.
  - (b) Pidgins are fully developed languages.
  - (c) Pidgins have complex vocabulary and grammar.
  - (d) Pidgins are used for all functions.

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13. Which morpheme in *neighborhoods* has an inflectional function?
- (a) neighbour
  - (b) -hood
  - (c) -s
  - (d) -bor-
14. How many morphemes are there in the word *quotations*?
- (a) Two
  - (b) Three
  - (c) Four
  - (d) Five
15. In the following, which is NOT a compound word?
- (a) boyfriend
  - (b) blackboard
  - (c) boyish
  - (d) blackberry
16. In the following, which is NOT a voiceless sound?
- (a) [b]
  - (b) [k]
  - (c) [h]
  - (d) [s]
17. Consider the morpheme *-ly* in *beautifully*. What is the best description for the morpheme *-ly*?
- (a) Derivational and bound
  - (b) Derivational and free
  - (c) Inflectional and bound
  - (d) Inflection and free
18. How do we call a process by which a sound becomes less like a nearby sound in terms of some feature?
- (a) assimilation
  - (b) dissimilation
  - (c) deletion
  - (d) insertion

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19. In the following, which is NOT commonly considered an example of a lingua franca?
- (a) Mandarin among the Chinese diaspora
  - (b) Spanish in Latin America
  - (c) Haitian Creole
  - (d) All of the above
20. What is the implicature of the sentence said by B?
- A: Have you done the homework?  
B: The computer is not working.
- (a) B has done the homework.
  - (b) B has not done the homework.
  - (c) B's computer is working.
  - (d) B's computer is not working.
21. In the following, which does NOT have the presupposition of *Mary has been exercising*.
- (a) Mary began exercising.
  - (b) Mary stopped exercising.
  - (c) Mary continued exercising.
  - (d) Mary finished exercising.
22. What is the thematic role of school in the sentence *Mary walked to school from home*?
- (a) Agent
  - (b) Experiencer
  - (c) Goal
  - (d) Source
23. A language disorder resulting from brain damage that involves a loss of the ability to use words is:
- (a) Language acquisition device (LAD) happy/sad
  - (b) Aphasia
  - (c) Split brain
  - (d) None of the above

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24. In the following pairs of words, which is an example of minimal pair?

- (a) cheap and chair
- (b) cheap and shape
- (c) charm and shine
- (d) cheap and chip

25. Which of the following is a characteristic of a consonant?

- (a) Are the lips rounded or spread?
- (b) Is the sound voiced or voiceless?
- (c) How forward or backward in the mouth is the tongue?
- (d) How high or low in the mouth is the tongue?

**Part II: Discussion questions – Provide a short description for the following questions (50%)**

1. Discuss why the following sentence is not possible in English:

- \*Jane said that the boy bit herself.

2. Discuss the ambiguity of the following sentence and draw tree diagrams to illustrate the different interpretations.

- The parents of the bride and the groom are waiting.

3. Explain the interpretations of the following sentence and discuss which is the more reasonable interpretation.

- John kissed his wife, and so did Sam.

4. What are the differences between derivational and inflectional morphemes?

5. Consider the Sindhi (a language spoken in southern Asia) examples and describe the distribution of [p] and [p<sup>h</sup>], and discuss if they are separate phonemes or allophones of the same phoneme.

[pənu] leaf

[təru] bottom

[dəru] door

[vəju] opportunity

[k<sup>h</sup>əto] sour

[əju] judge

[seki] suspicious

[bəju] run

[p<sup>h</sup>ənu] snake hood