CENTRE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD

PhD. ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY 2013

Max. Time: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do NOT reveal your identity in any manner in any part of the answer book.

2. Enter your Hall Ticket Number on the FIRST page of EACH section of the answer book.
   This paper comprises THREE SECTIONS in all.

3. SECTIONS A and B consist of objective type questions.

4. SECTION C requires an essay type answer.

5. Write your answers in the space provided. No additional paper or answer book will be given.

6. Space for rough work is provided on pages 8 and 22.
1. Which of the following is correct?

- a) She has decided to confide in her doctor.
- b) She has decided to confide with her doctor.
- c) She has decided to confide for her doctor.
- d) She has decided to confide to her doctor.

2. Look at the following sentences –
   i. They haven’t replied to me.
   ii. They haven’t replied.
   iii. They haven’t replied me.
   iv. They haven’t replied for me.

   The correct sentences are:

- a) i. and iii.
- b) i. and ii.
- c) only i.
- d) only iii.

Questions 3 and 4: Study the pairs of words given and choose from the options the set that best parallels the relationship exemplified in the examples given in questions 3 and 4.

3. enfranchise: slavery

- a) liberate: confine
- b) bondage: subjugation
- c) appeasement: unreasonableness
- d) anatomy: physiology

4. rise: ascend

- a) live: dwell
- b) occupy: dwell
- c) occupy: inhabit
- d) dwell: inhabit
5. “I speak to you as a teacher.”
This sentence means:

i. ‘I’ is the teacher and she speaks.
ii. ‘I’ is speaking to her teacher.

☐ a) i
☐ b) ii
☐ c) Both i and ii
☐ d) Neither i nor ii.

6. Which of the following is the most polite and appropriate in the context of a junior officer talking to his CEO?

☐ a) Hand me the book.
☐ b) Will you hand me the book?
☐ c) Would you hand me the book?
☐ d) Could I ask you to hand me the book?

7. A teacher writes to a young student asking him to respond to an invitation. Which of the following is appropriate at the end of the letter?

i. You are requested to reply immediately.
ii. Please answer right away.

☐ a) Only i
☐ b) Only ii
☐ c) Both i and ii
☐ d) Neither i nor ii

8. Her ___________ to dance was made known to everybody.

☐ a) obviousness
☐ b) eagerness
☐ c) avidness
☐ d) forwardness

9. Jack took Mike’s coat off.
This sentence means:

i. Jack was wearing Mike’s coat and he took it off.
ii. Mike was wearing a coat and Jack took it off.

☐ a) i
☐ b) ii
☐ c) Both i and ii
☐ d) Neither i nor ii
10. A recent acquaintance visits you at home. She takes cookies without invitation. You say, “That’s right. Help yourself to the cookie jar.” By saying this you are:
   i. being sarcastic
   ii. endorsing the person’s actions

☐ a) only (i)
☐ b) only (ii)
☐ c) both (i) and (ii)
☐ d) neither (i) nor (ii).

Questions 11 and 12: Read the passage below and answer questions 11 and 12.

The levels of dissolved oxygen in the world’s ocean waters are declining precipitously. Just like humans, fish need oxygen to survive. And so, in ocean areas, fish populations are plummeting due to significant levels of oxygen scarcity, or hypoxia. Although some hypoxic areas, called “dead zones,” occur naturally, hypoxia in coastal areas and inland waters is caused mainly by agricultural run-off and by discharge of industrial waste. More than one-hundred permanent dead zones, many covering thousands of square miles, exist worldwide today.

11. This paragraph does not say that –

☐ a) hypoxic areas occur because of industrial waste water.
☐ b) hypoxic areas can occur naturally.
☐ c) fish populations are plummeting because of industrial waste.
☐ d) coastal areas only are badly affected by agricultural run-off.

12. Which of the following is stated overtly by the passage?

☐ a) Hypoxia is inevitable.
☐ b) Hypoxia should be prevented.
☐ c) Primarily, human activity causes hypoxia.
☐ d) Primarily, stagnant inland water is affected by hypoxia.

Questions 13 and 14: Read the passage below and answer questions 13 and 14.

Evolutionary psychology takes as its starting point the uncontroversial assertion that the anatomical and physiological features of the human brain have arisen as a result of adaptations to the demands of the environment over the millennia. However, from this reasonable point of departure, these psychologists make unreasonable extrapolations. They claim that the behavior of contemporary man (in almost all its aspects) is a reflection of features of the brain that acquired their present characteristics during those earliest days of our species when early man struggled to survive and multiply.
13. The author’s primary purpose in the passage is not to

☐ a) question the role of evolution in the formation of the human brain.
☐ b) evaluate a particular theory of human behavior.
☐ c) argue for the superiority of a particular viewpoint.
☐ d) highlight the erroneous tendency in an area of social sciences.

14. This passage accepts that –

☐ a) the present human behavior is not at all connected with the features the brain acquired during the early days of evolution.
☐ b) the anatomical features of the brain have been shaped by the demands of adaptation over ages.
☐ c) the physiological features of the brain remains unchanged.
☐ d) the need to survive and multiply has always been the deciding factor of human behaviour.

15. Look at the sentences below and pick out the correct ones

i. I didn't want to study any longer but my mother made me to continue for another hour.
ii. I didn't want to study any longer but my mother made me continue for another hour.
iii. I didn't want to study longer but my mother made me to continue for another hour.
iv. I didn't want to study longer but my mother made me continue for another hour.

The correct sentences are--

☐ a) i and ii
☐ b) ii and iv
☐ c) iii and iv
☐ d) i and iv

16. Pick out the correct sentence.

☐ a) Poisonous black widow spiders have invaded Britain by plane. A U. S. airman has captured one of the spiders in a jar after it crawled out of a crate. Britain is in a state of high alert now.
☐ b) Poisonous black widow spiders had invaded Britain by plane. A U. S. airman captured one of the spiders in a jar after it crawled out of a crate. Britain is in a state of high alert now.
☐ c) Poisonous black widow spiders had invaded Britain by plane. A U. S. airman had captured one of the spiders in a jar after it crawled out of a crate. Britain is in a state of high alert now.
☐ d) Poisonous black widow spiders have invaded Britain by plane. A U. S. airman had captured one of the spiders in a jar after it crawled out of a crate. Britain is in a state of high alert now.
Questions 17-21: Fill in the blanks choosing the best option.

17. After the interview, she realized that she had no useful skills that ________ the interviewer.
   □ a) was interesting
   □ b) would be interested
   □ c) interested
   □ d) interested in

18. The British ________ not to be very good at cooking.
   □ a) says
   □ b) say
   □ c) is said
   □ d) are said

19. The grandmother ________ that her grandson ________ in the school.
   □ a) told ------- was taken good care of
   □ b) was told ------- had taken good care of
   □ c) has told ------- taken good care of
   □ d) was told ------- had been taken good care of

20. This dictionary ________ to you; yours ________ by someone else.
   □ a) is not belonged ------- has been taken
   □ b) doesn't belong ------- has taken
   □ c) doesn't belong ------- has been taken
   □ d) doesn't belong ------- will have been taken

21. Choose the option that will not fit in the blank.
   True luxury ________ the mundane and becomes what you wish it to become.
   □ a) turns into
   □ b) escapes
   □ c) endorses
   □ d) obscures

22. Choose the right option to complete the sentence.
   “In matters of the heart it is often difficult to _________. ”
   □ a) make a conclusion
   □ b) find a conclusion
   □ c) derive a conclusion
   □ d) arrive at a conclusion
23. Pick out the sentence that is unacceptable.

☐ a) The bullet shot was used as a decoy to distract.
☐ b) Decoy was the main motif of the game plan.
☐ c) You cannot decoy me in this game.
☐ d) Don’t use your innocent face as a decoy.

24. Which of the following is the most appropriate for a notice board?

☐ a) Wanted: a badly hit car with flat unusable tyres.
☐ b) Wanted a badly hit car, with flat unusable tyres.
☐ c) Wanted: a badly, hit car, with flat unusable tyres.
☐ d) Wanted a badly-hit car with flat unusable tyres.

25. Which of the following is not correctly punctuated?

☐ a) The Audi A-7 Sport pack. Luxury liberated.
☐ b) The Audi A-7 Sport pack, Luxury liberated.
☐ c) The Audi A-7 Sport pack: Luxury liberated.
☐ d) The Audi A-7 Sport pack—Luxury liberated.
FOR ROUGH WORK
SECTION B: DATA ANALYSIS AND TEACHING TASKS
[TOTAL MARKS 25]

There are 12 questions to answer.
Questions 1 to 11 carry TWO MARKS each.
Question 12 carries THREE MARKS.
Put a tick mark (✓) in the box against the correct answer.

1. "I will go" (said with a falling intonation on 'go') is an example of:
   i. promise
   ii. permission
   iii. prediction
   iv. request

   □  a) i, ii, iii, iv
   □  b) i and iii
   □  c) ii and iv
   □  d) ii and iii

2. "He will lose." (said with a rising intonation)
   This statement is an example of:
   i. doubt
   ii. permission
   iii. prediction
   iv. assertion

   □  a) i and iii
   □  b) ii and iv
   □  c) i and ii
   □  d) ii and iii

3. Given below are two examples of how English words are sometimes abbreviated and used in India:
   "enthusiasm" to "enthu" as in "She has real enthu." OR "He is a real enthu person."
   "fundamentals" to "fundas" as in "She knows her fundas."
   Sometimes it changes into "fundu" and means "wonderful" or "brilliant" as in
   "He is a fundu person"; "He is fundu".
The process at work here shows that adaptation can

i. alter the meaning of a word
ii. be productive
iii. make words unusable

☐ a) i and ii
☐ b) ii and iii
☐ c) i and iii
☐ d) All of the above (i, ii and iii)

4. At 22 months children produce the following structures:

- po'tato ['tʰ ed n]
- 'heli,copter ['kʰ o t o]
- 'avo,cado ['k a g o]

This data demonstrates that:

i. children reduce polysyllabic words to disyllabic words
ii. they have standard initial stress
iii. they omit secondary stress
iv. their syllables do not begin with vowels

☐ a) Only i, ii, and iii
☐ b) Only ii, iii and iv
☐ c) All of the above
☐ d) None of the above.

5. /l/ in English has these variants: [l] [ʌ] and [l]

l[l]ate gl[l]ean doll[ʌ] pl[l]ow

This data shows that:

i. [ʌ] and [l] are used unpredictably
ii. [ʌ] is used in word final positions
iii. [l] is used before vowels
iv. [ʌ] is used before consonants
v. [l] is used after voiceless consonants
The right answer is:

☐ a) Only i
☐ b) ii, iii and iv
☐ c) ii, iv and v
☐ d) iii, iv and v

6. “John and Bill cook well.”
   
i. This sentence may be said to be derived from John cooks well and Bill cooks well.
   
ii. Under conditions of identity, the verb phrase is brought down to one.
   
iii. This transformation is obligatory.

Which of the above is true?

☐ a) Only i
☐ b) i and ii
☐ c) ii and iii
☐ d) i, ii and iii

7. The following are some slips of the tongue:
   
   • “Threw the window through the clock” for “Threw the clock through the window”
   • “A hole full of floors” for “A floor full of holes”
   • “In 1896” for “In 1986”

   But not:
   
   • “The Threw clock through the window”
   • “Floor a full of holes”
   • “19 in 86”

   This data shows that probably:
   
i. Slips of the tongue are unpredictable
   
ii. Articles and prepositions are not involved
   
iii. Only items that are identifiable as whole units are involved

☐ a) Only i
☐ b) Only ii
☐ c) Only iii
☐ d) None of the above
Questions 8 and 9: Look at the following news items describing the same event from two newspapers and answer questions 8 and 9.

i. “Unruly Black mobs shot dead by police as ANC leaders meet”
ii. “Police shoot 11 dead in Salisbury riot”

8. Compare the two statements and pick out which of the two tries to sympathise with the police.

☐ a) Only i
☐ b) Only ii
☐ c) both i and ii
☐ d) neither i nor ii

9. Which of the newspapers would be openly anti-Black?

☐ a) i
☐ b) ii
☐ c) both i and ii
☐ d) neither i nor ii

Questions 10 to 12: The following information has been put together after studying the way a group of L2 learners (English in this case) learn the language. Their scores in a reading proficiency test (out of 10) in L2, their journal entries, and the dominant language in their home environment also have been provided. Study the data and answer questions 10 to 12.

A. Sreeparna-
Scores in reading comprehension test—3.5
(Journal entries)
- I hardly compare my mother tongue structure with English while reading.
- I easily guess the meanings of unknown words from the context given.
- My medium of study has been English from the beginning.
- Very often English is used for communication in my house.
(Sreeparna is not good at her mother tongue but has some reading proficiency)

B. Ramana-
Scores in reading comprehension test—4.5
(Journal entries)
- I don’t need to, but I enjoy comparing my L1 and L2 structures.
- I can grasp meaning from the context but would like to know how a similar word is used in my mother tongue.
- My medium of study has always been English.
- At home, the preferred mode of communication is the mother tongue.
(Ramana is very good at English and has good exposure and proficiency in his Mother tongue)
C. Ramya-
Scores in reading comprehension test—5
(Journal entries)
- I don’t need to compare the L2 structure with my mother tongue, but I can if I have to.
- I can infer the meanings of unknown words from the context but I am aware of parallel words in my mother-tongue.
- I had my initial education in the English medium but moved on to join the vernacular medium.
- My family is bilingual. Both English and the mother-tongue are used at home.
  (Because of formal exposure to the vernacular medium Ramya is good with mother tongue literature; her English too is very proficient.)

D. Sohit—
Scores in reading comprehension test—3.5
(Journal entries)
- I often translate English to my mother tongue to understand.
- Guessing the words from the context is not always easy but I manage by linking it to the context and using my mother tongue knowledge.
- I have been educated in the vernacular medium only.
  (Sohit had an English disadvantage when he started the year. But he is very hard working and perceptive. He has almost overcome the disadvantage.)

E. Rohit—
Scores in reading comprehension test—3
(Journal entries)
- I need to draw parallels with my mother tongue to understand English well.
- I can guess the meanings of words from the context but am surer if the mother tongue translation too is also available.
- My study has been all through in the vernacular medium.
- English is rarely used in my home as the language of communication.
  (Rohit started with a lot of enthusiasm to learn English to overcome his disadvantage. But he found the task too demanding and has started to give up trying)

F. Radha—
Scores in reading comprehension test—3.5
(Journal entries)
- I am more easy with English than my mother tongue.
- I sometimes find it difficult to grasp word meanings from the context, especially if it involves inferring.
- My study has always been in the English medium.
- English is the language spoken often at home.
  (Radha is fluent in English but has problems of accuracy sometimes. She feels her English is good enough and she has no motivation to improve it further.)
10. Comparing the structures of L1 and L2 might result in:
   - a) help in L2 acquisition
   - b) hindrance in L2 acquisition
   - c) confusion in L2 acquisition
   - d) None of the above

11. Studying in the English and vernacular mediums affects acquisition of L2 reading comprehension:
   - a) positively
   - b) negatively
   - c) always negatively
   - d) None of the above

12. Which of the following is true?
   - a) Ability to infer meaning from the context is generally a sign of good reading comprehension.
   - b) Ability to infer meaning from the context is not necessarily a sign of good reading comprehension.
   - c) Ability to infer meaning from the context and good reading comprehension are not related.
   - d) None of the above.
SECTION C: ESSAY

[TOTAL MARKS 25]

Write an essay, giving suitable examples, on any ONE of the following topics in the space provided on the following pages.

1. "Reliability" in language research.
2. Socio-linguistic theories and language varieties.
3. Teaching stress and rhythm of English in the L2 context.
4. Determining standards in testing.
6. Teacher education policies in India.
7. L2 learning – the earlier the better?
9. English as a colonizer’s language in India.
10. Scaffolding in L2 teaching.
11. Teaching strategies and teaching styles.
Number and Title of essay:

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