

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS – 2016**Ph.D. English Language Studies**

INSTRUCTIONS:

There are three sections to answer. There are TWELVE pages to this question paper.

Sections A and B consist of multiple-choice questions. Answer sections A and B in the OMR sheet provided to you.

Section A consists of 25 questions (1 to 25). Each question carries one mark.

Section B consists of 25 questions (26 to 50). Each question carries one mark.

Section C consists of essay type questions. Answer Section C in the separate answer book provided to you.

SECTION A**CONTENT QUESTIONS****(25 MARKS)****MARK THE CORRECT ANSWERS IN THE OMR SHEET PROVIDED TO YOU.**

1. Which of the following are open class words?

- i. Nouns
- ii. Verbs
- iii. Prepositions
- iv. Conjunctions
- v. Adverbs

- a. i, ii and v b. i and ii c. ii, iii and iv d. iii and iv

2. Which of the following sets are minimal pairs in RP?

- i. kill, skill
- ii. bail, pale
- iii. court, caught
- iv. fly, fry

- a. i and ii b. ii and iii c. ii and iv d. iii and iv

3. Which of the following sets of sounds are continuants?
- i. /p, k, n, m/
 - ii. /f, d, m, ŋ/
 - iii. /f, v, n, j/
 - iv. /m, n, j, w/
- a. i and ii b. iii and iv c. iii d. iv
4. The nucleus in a syllable is part of
- a. the onset
 - b. the rhyme
 - c. the coda
 - d. the vowel
5. The sentence "It was John who committed the crime", is an example of
- a. a conjoined sentence
 - b. a garden path sentence
 - c. an ambiguous sentence
 - d. a cleft sentence
6. The sentence "I promise I will be there", is an example of
- a. indirect speech act
 - b. direct speech act
 - c. an admonitive
 - d. an expressive
7. In the Cooperative Principle, 'manner' refers to
- a. being truthful
 - b. speaking judiciously
 - c. being informative
 - d. being relevant
8. In the creole continuum, the standard variety would be
- a. language
 - b. dialect
 - c. mesolect
 - d. acrolect
9. The procedure of creating a common ancestral form from which new forms can be derived is called:
- a. Comparative reconstruction
 - b. Creating a Proto-form
 - c. Creating a Proto-language
 - d. Using Sound Laws

10. An area where languages demonstrate similarities due to shared history is called:
- Regional dialect
 - Language family
 - Linguistic area /Sprachbund
 - Multilingual field
11. What is the difference between the highest and lowest scores in a data distribution called?
- Range
 - Mean
 - Median
 - Mode
12. Which of the following is **not** true?
- A phoneme functions contrastively.
 - Allophones function in mutually exclusive environments.
 - Substituting one phoneme for another will result in a word with a different meaning.
 - Substituting one allophone for another will result in a word with a different meaning.
- a) i & iii b) iv c) i, ii & iii d) i, ii & iv
13. Consider the following statements in the context of Krashen's theory of second language acquisition.
- Learning is part of acquisition
 - Acquisition is part of learning
- Now choose the right option from the choices given below:
- Only (i) is right.
 - Only (ii) is right.
 - Both (i) and (ii) are right.
 - Neither (i) nor (ii) is right.
14. What could be a limitation of a mixed methods research?
- limited exploratory capacity
 - too complex theories
 - meaningfully correlating different types of results
 - low reputation
15. According to Prabhu, which of the following is **not** a type of task.
- Information-gap based task
 - Opinion-gap based task
 - Communication-gap based task
 - Reasoning-gap based task.

16. "Linguicism" is:
- Structure used to produce unequal division of power on the basis of language.
 - Ideologies that lead to the standardization of certain varieties of language.
 - Social processes that result in the creation of mixed varieties of language.
 - Systematic application of multilingualism in the context of learning of languages.
17. David Crystal's position on World Englishes **cannot** be summed up as:
- Expansion of English
 - Identity construction
 - Liberalisation
 - Modernisation.
18. Which of the following is **not** exactly an assumption inherent to the post-method condition?
- Teaching/learning has to be rooted in particularity.
 - Teaching/learning has to be rooted in practicality.
 - Teaching/learning has to move beyond all methods.
 - Teaching/learning has to factor in parameters of possibility.
19. Which of the following questions is **not** included in "needs analysis"?
- What level of competence is needed to perform the target task?
 - What is the level of learner's proficiency at the given point of time?
 - What do the learners think is useful for them?
 - What does the available infrastructure permit?
20. Which among the choices below is not a way to decide the sequence in a curriculum?
- Learning burden
 - Teachability
 - Interference
 - Assessment
21. Raja Rammohan Roy's letter to Lord Amherst strongly advocated:
- Western education
 - English education
 - Persian education
 - Vernacular education

22. What does the following statement refer to?
'...when decisions based on the interpretation of test scores or evaluations (of a single test) can lead to consequences for test takers, and when these consequences radically alter test takers' major career path or life event...' (Kunnan 2013).
- low-stakes tests
 - high-stakes tests
 - placement tests
 - achievement tests
23. Which of the following is **not** an advantage of extended writing assignments?
- Provides practice in entire writing process: planning, drafting, formatting, editing, and polishing.
 - Encourages students to get started and maintain momentum via deadlines and classroom support.
 - Provides opportunities for students to create a textually cohesive, stylistically appropriate, and ideationally coherent piece of discourse for an audience.
 - Provides opportunities for students to reproduce ideas and statements from other sources.
24. Which of the following is the *real-world* task?
- In the following article on nuclear hazards the linking words and phrases are missing. Choose the most appropriate word or phrase from those given, then compare your answers.
 - Write a paragraph describing the information in the table. Use quantity qualifications instead of percentage figures. Begin with "Last year all overseas students completed university registration forms."
 - The following sentences are either formal or informal. Write F or I after each one.
 - Read the following letter of complaint about non-delivery of a shipment from your company. Now look at the other documents relating to the order extracted from the customer file and draft a polite response setting out the reasons for the delay and promising redress.
25. In the context of second language acquisition, "...a wish to capitalize on the usefulness of knowing a language within the learners' own culture..." refers to:
- Integrative motivation
 - Instrumental motivation
 - Intrinsic motivation
 - Self-motivation

SECTION B
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH APTITUDE
(25 MARKS)

MARK THE CORRECT ANSWERS IN THE OMR SHEET PROVIDED TO YOU.

26. Which of the following is a typical order of an experimental research report?
- Introduction, literature review, results, methods, and discussion
 - Introduction, methods, literature review, results, and discussion
 - Introduction, literature review, methods, results, and discussion
 - Introduction, literature review, discussion, results and methods
27. Which of the following is not a hypothesis?
- Objective measurements and feedback will have a significantly positive effect on students' skills.
 - The quality of L2 composition is not necessarily affected by metaknowledge of L2 composition.
 - L1 writing ability together with L2 proficiency will affect quality of L2 composition.
 - The study examines whether overt teaching of revision strategies bring about greater improvement in written production than the traditional way of teaching revision.
28. Which of the following is **not** the typical function of literature review in a research report?
- to evaluate existing research in a field
 - to summarise research in a field
 - to demonstrate familiarity with the field
 - to identify a research gap
29. Which of the following research designs generates a hypothesis?
- experimental research design
 - exploratory research design
 - correlational research design
 - cross-sectional research design
30. Identify the independent variables in the study titled "Acquiring Vocabulary through Reading: Effects of Frequency and Contextual Richness"
- vocabulary acquisition and reading
 - reading and frequency
 - frequency and contextual richness
 - vocabulary acquisition and contextual richness

Read the numbered text below and answer questions 31, 32, 33 and 34.

- i. Integrated second-language writing tasks elicit writing performances that involve other abilities such as reading or listening.
 - ii. Thus, understanding the role of these other abilities is necessary for interpreting performance on such tasks.
 - iii. This study used an inductive analysis of think-aloud protocol data and interviews to uncover the reading strategies of 12 non-native English writers who completed an integrated reading-writing task.
 - iv. Strategy frequency was considered overall, during composing, and across writers.
 - v. Word-level strategies were most common along with global and mining strategies.
 - vi. Higher scoring writers used more mining and global strategies, while lower scoring writers showed similar frequency in overall strategy use but differences in choice of strategy.
 - vii. These results suggest that reading plays a role in the process and performance of integrated writing tasks, an important consideration when using such tasks for learning or assessment.
31. Which of the following best describes the numbered text above?
- a. Abstract
 - b. Summary
 - c. Synopsis
 - d. Research proposal
32. Which of the sentences provide a background to the study?
- a. Sentences i and iii
 - b. Sentence i and ii
 - c. Sentences i, ii, and iii
 - d. Sentence i and iv
33. Which of the sentences state the methodology of the study?
- a. Sentences i, ii, iii and iv
 - b. Sentences i and ii
 - c. Sentence i only
 - d. Sentence iii and iv
34. Which of the sentences present the findings?
- a. Sentence iv only
 - b. Sentence v only
 - c. Sentences v and vi
 - d. Sentences v, vi, and vii
35. Which of the following is a typical weakness of qualitative research?
- a. Exploratory nature
 - b. Making sense of complexity

- c. Sample size and generalizability
 - d. Broadening of our understanding
36. _____ is a method for validation or verification; qualitative researchers generally use this technique to ensure that an account is rich, robust, comprehensive and well-developed.
- a. Triangulation
 - b. Parametric statistics
 - c. Non-parametric statistics
 - d. Content analysis
37. Solving day-to-day problems in a classroom using research is known as:
- a. Action research
 - b. Active research
 - c. Experimental research
 - d. Survey research
38. Read the passage below and answer the question that follows.
- Richards (1992) claims that the relationship between x and y is important. He goes on to show that... However, in a more recent work Zhang (2010) contradicts this claim and argues that ...
- In a thesis, writing of this type would be part of:
- a. Introduction
 - b. Research questions
 - c. Literature review
 - d. Conclusion
39. In the APA style sheet, APA stands for:
- a. Academic presentation and agreement
 - b. Academic presentation and announcement
 - c. American psychological association
 - d. American phonetic agreement.
40. Which of the following is **not** a characteristic feature of ethnographic research?
- a. The research is carried out in the context in which the participants live and work.
 - b. The researcher creates a controlled environment for the research.
 - c. The research is carried out for a long period of time
 - d. The research involves interpretative study of collected data.

41. Which of the statements given below is **not** true:

- a. Diary keeping promotes autonomous learning.
- b. Diary keeping makes a research process oriented.
- c. Diary keeping helps in the articulation of problems.
- d. Diary keeping helps quantify the learning outcome.

42. Read the passage below:

The attitudes and proficiency levels of subjects are categorized and counted using some instruments. The instruments are often based on observation schemes and descriptive categories that have been developed prior to the research.

This type of research that uses instruments to ascertain proficiency levels and attitudes is typically seen in:

- a. Qualitative research
- b. Quantitative research
- c. Ethnographic research
- d. Process-based research

43. Which of the following is generally **not** part of literature review?

- a. Journal articles
- b. Books
- c. Conference papers
- d. Field notes

44. In research, “true/false items”, “ranking items”, “Likert-scale items” are generally part of:

- a. analysis
- b. questionnaire
- c. experiment
- d. methodology

45. Which of the following is **not** a closed-ended question?

- a. True-false
- b. Rank order
- c. Multiple choice
- d. Sentence completion

46. Non-parametric statistics include

- a. tests and survey scores
- b. frequencies and ranked data
- c. means and standard deviations
- d. normally distributed data

Read the following and answer questions 47 and 48.

The following is a short description of three students of class 9 in a rural vernacular medium school. And the table indicates their spoken and written proficiency in English.

S1- Male. Parents are not educated but very eager to educate their only son. They earn enough to be able to finance their son's education but cannot afford luxuries like the television or computer.

S2- Female. Parents have basic education and have regular employment. They are determined to educate their daughter. Special care is taken at home to ensure that she listens to some English regularly on the radio and parents even try to talk to her in English whenever possible.

S3- Female. Parents are uneducated and find it hard to make both ends meet. The pressure to ensure the basics does not leave much space in the family for education. There is pressure on the student to quit studies and look for a job.

Written and spoken proficiency.

	Written	Spoken
S1	Basic	Intermediate
S2	Intermediate	Advanced
S3	Basic	Basic

47. From the data it can be concluded that (choose the most correct answer):

- a. Parents' education with a positive attitude to educating children has an impact on the child's performance.
- b. Parents' education alone has an impact on child's performance.
- c. Parents' attitude towards educating children has no impact on child's performance.
- d. Parents' attitude alone has a positive impact on child's performance.

48. The data above shows that (choose the most correct answer):

- a. Having or not having a computer has an impact on written proficiency.
- b. Spoken fluency is linked to listening comprehension.
- c. Spoken fluency is not determined by the environment one lives in.
- d. Written fluency is linked to spoken fluency.

Read the table below on languages in New Zealand and answer the questions that follow:

Languages	Number of people speaking the language (with percentages)		
	2001	2006	2013
English	3,425,301 (84%)	3,673,626 (83%)	3,819,969 (80%)
Te Reo Maori	160,527 (4%)	157,110 (4%)	148,395 (3%)
Samoan	81,033 (2%)	85,428 (2%)	86,403 (2%)
NZ Sign Language	27,285 (<1%)	24,090 (<1%)	20,235 (<1%)
Other	384,858 (10%)	509,358 (11%)	719,853 (15%)
Total People	4,079,004	4,449,612	4,794,855

49. We may definitely NOT infer from the table above that

- The number of deaf-mute in New Zealand is not increasing.
- Te Reo Maori and English are reducing in percentage of speakers due to increase in speakers of other languages.
- Outsiders are gaining ground and marginalizing the native people of New Zealand and English speakers.
- Samoan speakers are the smallest minority group in New Zealand.

50. In answering the above question the following is least relevant:

- Actual figures
- Percentages
- Total population
- Language

SECTION C

ESSAY

(25 MARKS)

WRITE YOUR ANSWER IN THE SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK PROVIDED TO YOU.

Write an essay on any ONE of the following in about 1500 words. Give suitable examples wherever appropriate.

1. What reading strategies do you believe teachers should adopt in the digital age? Justify your stance.
2. Compare and contrast EAP and EOP. Which do you think is more need-based and why?
3. Communicative language teaching is simply teaching pragmatic competence. Do you agree with this point of view? Elaborate.
4. Do you agree with the view that New Varieties of English must be considered to be a part of the pidginisation—creolisation process? Explain your position.
5. Can the field of Semantics be considered to be a part of grammar? Define grammar and give your arguments for or against.
6. What is the role of corpus approaches in English language studies research? What implications do they have for language classrooms?
7. What does creativity entail in a language classroom? Demonstrate how one can be creative through the methods and materials used.
8. Do you believe that in the ESL context such as India, target language culture should be taught? Justify your answer.
9. How can we exploit literary sources for teaching language?
10. Is Macaulay more sinned against than sinning? Examine the role of English in modern India and argue out your position.

END OF PAPER