

**ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS - 2017
PhD English Language Studies**

Time- 2 Hours

Maximum marks - 80

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INSTRUCTIONS:

There are three sections to answer. There are 10 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 40 questions (1 to 40). Each question carries one mark.

Section B consists of 20 questions (41 to 60). Each question carries one mark.

Section C consists of essay-type questions. Answer Section C in the separate answer book provided.
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**SECTION A
RESEARCH METHODS (40 MARKS)**

1. Which of the following is **not** a descriptive research question?
 - A. How do the students rate on critical thinking skills?
 - B. What are the students' achievement levels in science classes?
 - C. What is the educational attainment of the parents of the eighth graders?
 - D. Does critical thinking ability relate to student achievement?

2. Qualitative research includes
 - A. research questions
 - B. closed-ended questions
 - C. hypotheses
 - D. all of the above

3. Quantitative research
 - A. explores a phenomenon
 - B. describes an experience
 - C. seeks to understand a phenomenon
 - D. describes results of variables

4. The introduction of a research report is
 - A. deductive
 - B. inductive
 - C. abductive
 - D. reductive

5. A variable that is presumed to cause a change in another variable is called
 - A. a dependent variable
 - B. an independent variable
 - C. a control variable
 - D. a mediating variable

6. A list of research sources that includes concise description and evaluation of each source is termed
 - A. references
 - B. annotated bibliography
 - C. works cited
 - D. bibliography

7. Which of the following is not a component of argument in research?
 - A. claim
 - B. reasons
 - C. evidence
 - D. examples

8. Research writing tends to be complex and dense because
 - A. of abstract ideas/reasons linked by “verbs of being” in condensed sentences.
 - B. of human actors carrying out actions/processes in dynamically linked sequences of clauses.
 - C. of high grammatical intricacy and low lexical density.
 - D. of all the above.

9. Likert-scale is an example of
 - A. qualitative research design
 - B. closed-ended questionnaire
 - C. open-ended questionnaire
 - D. semi-structured interview schedule

10. Which of the following is **not** a reason for conducting a pilot study?
 - A. to fine-tune the final version of the questionnaire in order to eliminate ambiguous, too difficult/easy, or irrelevant items
 - B. to increase the validity and reliability of research findings
 - C. to improve the clarity of the item wordings and the instructions.
 - D. to time the completion of the questionnaire

11. Which of the following is **not** an example of probability sampling?
 - A. convenience sampling
 - B. simple random sampling
 - C. stratified random sampling
 - D. cluster sampling

12. Statistical significance denotes
- A. whether a particular result is powerful enough to indicate a more generalizable phenomenon.
 - B. that we cannot be certain whether a phenomenon has occurred in the particular sample only because of chance.
 - C. whether a particular result is not powerful enough to indicate a generalizable phenomenon.
 - D. All of the above.
13. Which of the following does not characterize quantitative research?
- A. Researcher and object of study are independent.
 - B. Reality exists, but we perceive it imperfectly and incompletely.
 - C. Replicability is a means of testing truth.
 - D. Research findings are mediated by social values.
14. Graphing data, like tabulating data
- A. is helpful in the construction of theoretical framework.
 - B. is helpful in the calculation in the mean, mode and median.
 - C. allows for the communication of large quantities of data succinctly.
 - D. allows for the calculation of standard deviation.
15. In which of the following does the focus of research emerge during data collection and analysis?
- A. quantitative research
 - B. qualitative research
 - C. survey research
 - D. cross-sectional research
16. Which of the following is **not** a function of literature review?
- A. To critique the previous research literature
 - B. To compare the results of proposed study to those of previous research
 - C. To identify a gap, a problem, a need in the research literature
 - D. To provide a rationale for doing the proposed study
17. Participants were 18 Chinese university English language learners (9 “successful” and 9 “unsuccessful”). Data were collected through focus group interviews (two per student), diaries in which participants reflected on their language learning, and follow-up emails. Results from analyzing the first interview and diaries determined questions for the second interview. Grounded theory was used to analyze the data. (Humphreys & Hamp-Lyons 2004: 227)

The above excerpt is an example of

- A. Qualitative research design
- B. Quantitative research design
- C. Mixed method research design
- D. Experimental research design

18. What is the function of the citation in the excerpt given below?

According to Ellis and Barkhuizen (2005), drawing a visualization or model of the data is beneficial because it can facilitate an understanding of the results and also forces the researcher to fine-tune how he or she has interpreted the data.

- A. Attribution
 - B. Evaluation
 - C. Comparison
 - D. Establishing links between sources
19. What does 'c' in "Gunnarsson 2001c" refer to in the following excerpt?
- Fant's and Borestam's conclusions can thus be seen as pointing to a more general problem involving the consequences for small languages and small national discourse communities of the dominance of English and the American culture (cf. Gunnarsson 2001c).
- A. It refers to the alphabetical order of Gunnarsson's work.
 - B. It refers to the third work of Gunnarsson in the year 2001.
 - C. It refers to the alphabetical order of references listed at the end of the paper.
 - D. It refers to the third reference in the alphabetical order given at the end of paper.
20. Which of the abstract types summarizes the key information from every major section of a research report?
- A. indicative abstract
 - B. informative abstract
 - C. unstructured abstract
 - D. critical abstract
21. Which of the following do **not** figure in a peer-reviewed journal?
- A. research reports
 - B. review articles
 - C. feature articles
 - D. book reviews
22. A paper that deals with new/established abstract principles related to a specific field of knowledge is a
- A. research paper
 - B. theoretical paper
 - C. review paper
 - D. book review
23. Control group can be employed in
- A. Longitudinal research
 - B. Survey research
 - C. Experimental research
 - D. Ethnographic research

24. Deductive logic proceeds from
- General to General
 - Particular to General
 - General to Particular
 - Particular to Particular
25. If a researcher replicates a study and the findings are the same as the original study, he/she can confidently conclude that
- the findings have increased our knowledge of the original findings.
 - the original findings are replicable.
 - nothing can be said with confidence about the study.
 - the findings explain the cause of the original findings.
26. A sampling method of building up a sample of a special population by using an initial set of members as informants is known as
- purposive sampling
 - convenience sampling
 - quota sampling
 - snowball sampling
27. An interview in which the interviewer encourages the respondent to talk freely about a given topic is a/an
- structured interview
 - unstructured interview
 - focused interview
 - clinical interview
28. In a study with a Null hypothesis the researcher argues that the performance of two or more groups
- does not differ.
 - differs only slightly.
 - differs non-significantly.
 - differs significantly.
29. To increase the likelihood of obtaining a significant result, you should have
- a large difference between the groups
 - small variability within groups
 - both of the above are true
 - none of the above is true
30. A study is meant to look at the time taken by male and female participants to learn a grammar rule. If the participants indicate the number of weeks they take to learn the rule, the results can be compared using which of the following options?
- means
 - percentages
 - medians
 - modes

31. Compared to quantitative reports, qualitative research reports are
- A. more objective
 - B. less interpretive
 - C. less biased
 - D. more reflective
32. Which of the following describes correctly the phases of qualitative research?
- A. Identifying and stating the research problem, planning, data collection, data analysis, writing the results.
 - B. Planning, begin the data collection, revise focus of study as needed, continue data collection, revise focus of study as needed, complete data collection, data analysis, writing.
 - C. Identify the research hypothesis, data collection, data analysis, conclusions, writing.
 - D. Planning, identifying the problem, data collection, writing.
33. Which of the following is **not** a general feature of qualitative research?
- A. inflexible design
 - B. naturalistic inquiry
 - C. holistic perspective
 - D. personal contact and insight
34. Which of the following is an example of primary data?
- A. book
 - B. journal
 - C. advertisement
 - D. all the above
35. Data related to human beings are called
- A. individual data
 - B. demographic data
 - C. organizational data
 - D. marginal data
36. Which of the following contrasts is used to distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research?
- A. numbers vs words
 - B. behaviour vs meaning
 - C. traditional vs modern
 - D. artificial vs natural
37. A researcher wants to study the relationship between age and willingness to communicate. She classifies her population into different age groups and she takes a random sample from each group in order. Which technique of sampling is she working with?
- A. random sampling
 - B. cluster sampling
 - C. stratified random sampling
 - D. systematic sampling

38. In data distribution the difference between the highest and lowest score is
- A. mode
 - B. standard deviation
 - C. median
 - D. range
39. A conceptual framework for a research study includes
- A. the theoretical framework for research study
 - B. the scope of the research study
 - C. the description of the research site
 - D. the purpose of the study
40. Purposive sampling, quota sampling, convenient sampling and snowball sampling are examples of
- A. non-probability sampling
 - B. cluster sampling
 - C. systematic sampling
 - D. probability sampling
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SECTION B
CONTENT QUESTIONS (20 marks)

41. Metalanguage knowledge refers to
- A. understanding a language
 - B. communicating in a language
 - C. talking about a language
 - D. expressing oneself in a language
42. Learner-centred methods do **not** focus on
- A. Information-gap activities
 - B. Reasoning-gap activities
 - C. Contextualized drills
 - D. Decontextualized drills.
43. N.S. Prabhu emphasized that grammar learning
- A. need not be conscious
 - B. needs to be conscious
 - C. is always conscious
 - D. is never conscious
44. The principle of post-method believes that method is
- A. a-historical
 - B. contextual
 - C. universal
 - D. neutral

45. 'Necessities', 'Lacks' and 'Wants' form part of
A. environmental analysis
B. needs analysis
C. curriculum design analysis
D. assessment analysis
46. Code switching can happen between
A. varieties of the same language
B. only two languages
C. three or more languages
D. all of the above
47. Bernstein, the British sociologist is known for his
A. theory of standard language
B. elaborated and restricted code
C. theories on language planning
D. theory of language games
48. A speech community can be defined as
A. a community that shares the same language
B. a group of people who regularly communicate with one another
C. a community that speaks the same dialect
D. all the above
49. Read the statements below and choose which among them is **not** a fallacy in the post colonial English teaching context.
A. The earlier English is taught, the better the results.
B. The more English is taught, the better the results.
C. If other languages are used much, the standards of English will drop.
D. All the above
50. The concept, *Linguicism*, can be most effectively related to
A. racism in language
B. language death
C. change in language
D. ideology in language.
51. Bilingualism has been studied in-depth by
A. Macaulay
B. Michael West
C. Harold Palmer
D. Henry Sweet.
52. The ZPD theory of Vygotsky implies that
A. socio-cultural context boosts learning.
B. skills are difficult to learn by oneself
C. guidance from knowledgeable person encourages learning
D. all the above

53. According to Ferdinand Saussure, the signifier is the
- word image
 - sound image
 - concept
 - idea
54. Diglossia is a situation where
- speakers use two different languages in different situations
 - speakers use two varieties of the same language in different situations
 - both 'A' and 'B'
 - neither 'A' nor 'B'.
55. Which of the following is not an artificial language
- Esperanto
 - Amasian
 - Armenian
 - Sign language
56. "Seema hit a man with a stick". The ambiguity here can be explained by giving different
- syntactic phrase structures
 - semantics of specific words
 - sounds of specific words
 - structural patterns of words
57. "The girl picked the flowers". In this sentence, "the girl" is the
- patient
 - agent
 - instrument
 - source
58. When "driver" is derived from "drive", why is "sponsorer" not derived from "sponsor"? Because
- it is an accidental gap.
 - er cannot attach to disyllabic words.
 - the structure will give rise to repetition of similar sounds.
 - there is a synonym in the language.
59. "ksin" cannot be a word in English because of
- phonotactic constraints
 - morphological constraints
 - generative constraints
 - arbitraty reasons.
60. Which of the following assumptions forms part of Critical Discourse Analysis?
- Language is opaque.
 - Language is transparent.
 - Language is inadequate.
 - Language is descriptive.

SECTION C
ESSAY QUESTIONS

Answer any one of the following questions in about 1500 words

1. Discuss in what way English language studies (ELS) is similar to and/or different from English Linguistics, ELT and Applied Linguistics.
2. How do Realia help in the Teaching of English in India? What kinds of material are generally used as part of this approach? Why?
3. Discuss the need and relevance of multilingual education in rural India.
4. What differences would be apparent when both weak and strong bilinguals indulge in code-switching? Support your answer using your knowledge of theories of bilingualism.
5. Why should Englishes spoken in India be classified as Indian Englishes while British English and American English are not characterised as constituting several varieties?
6. Continuous assessment obviates the need for summative examinations. Do you agree with this view? Explain your position.
7. In the digital era of communication, what is the role of punctuation? Is it necessary to spend time and effort teaching and learning punctuation in English? Explain.
8. "English did not march to India at the head of a conquering army. Neither did a royal decree establish it here. English gathered popular support in India from the economic opportunities it created for its users". Comment.
9. Evaluate the efficacy of a genre approach to language teaching and learning.
10. Would language learning be better with a prescribed textbook or with materials drawn from different sources to meet learners' needs? Explain

END OF PAPER