

Hall Ticket Number _____
Entrance Examinations 2025
PhD English Language Studies

Time: 2 hours

Maximum marks: 70

INSTRUCTIONS

- There are 11 pages and two parts to this question paper - Part A (Research Methods) and Part B (content questions).
 - Part B is divided into two sections.
 - Part A and Section I of Part B (questions I-55) should be answered in the OMR sheet.
 - Section II of Part B should be answered in the separate answer booklet provided.
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Part A
RESEARCH METHODS
(35 marks)

1. Research is the systematic process of _____ and logically _____ data for the purpose defined by the researcher.
 - A. collecting, analyzing
 - B. seeking, finding
 - C. searching, analyzing
 - D. assembling, finding
2. Which one of the following is a primary source of data?
 - A. Interview transcripts
 - B. Online databases
 - C. Websites
 - D. Books
3. Interactional Analysis falls under which of the following research types?
 - A. Qualitative research
 - B. Quantitative research
 - C. Mixed method research
 - D. Survey research
4. Which of these is **not** an advantage of the survey research method?
 - A. Inexpensive to administer
 - B. Easy to compare and analyze
 - C. Lack of depth
 - D. A good amount of data
5. The introduction in a research article does **not** include this _____.
 - A. establishing a research territory
 - B. establishing a research gap
 - C. stating research questions or hypotheses
 - D. describing the sample/participants

6. Match the types of research studies and features given in the box. Choose the correct matching sequence.

1. Deeply explores a phenomenon	i. Action research
2. Includes the contextual setting	ii. Corpus research
3. Investigates patterns of language use	iii. Case study design
4. Generates localized knowledge	iv. Discourse Analysis

- A. 1-iii; 2-iv; 3-ii; 4-i
 B. 1-iv; 2-i; 3-i; 4-iii
 C. 1-iii; 2-ii; 3-i; 4-iv
 D. 1-iv; 2-iii; 3-ii; 4-i
7. Reference to previous research tends to be sparsely found in this part of the research article.
 A. Introduction
 B. Methods
 C. Results
 D. Discussion
8. The _____ research paradigm is associated with the names of Comte and Durkheim in social sciences.
 A. Positivist
 B. Pragmatist
 C. Constructivist
 D. Advocacy and Participatory
9. In the context of language learning, a Social Constructivist framework will emphasise on_
 A. role of habit formation in language learning
 B. role of cultural context in language learning
 C. role of inductive approach in language learning
 D. role of drills and repetition in language learning

Read the following excerpt carefully and answer questions 10-11.

In its 2002 Report, *Scientific Research in Education*, we are told that - to be deemed scientific - the research "*must allow direct, empirical investigation of an important question, account for the context in which the study is carried out, align with a conceptual framework, reflect careful and thorough reasoning, and disclose results to encourage debates in the scientific community.*" (Shavelson and Towne, 2002:6)

10. According to the text, research in education is _____ and _____ across studies.
 A. localised, context-specific
 B. reproducible, particular
 C. replicable, generalisable
 D. specific, distinct

11. The text implies that research in education should ideally be _____.
A. logical and acontextual
B. logical and contextual
C. polemical and logical
D. typical and taxonomical
12. Which of the following is **not** an introspective method?
A. Information gap tasks
B. Think-aloud protocol
C. Anagram tasks
D. Retrospection
13. Triangulation is used in research for _____.
A. enhancing credibility of research findings
B. settling disagreements among data sources
C. deciding the appropriacy of a particular method
D. understanding the need for particular research
14. Cohort study is a term used for _____.
A. experimental study
B. longitudinal study
C. action research
D. attitude study
15. Which of the following is **not** a way of presenting data?
A. Charts
B. Diagrams
C. Tables
D. References
16. Consistency in the measurement of performance is indicative of _____.
A. Validity
B. Reliability
C. Generalizability
D. Ambiguity
17. Which of the following options has the right sequence?
A. Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion
B. Introduction, Discussion and Conclusion, Methods, Results
C. Introduction, Methods, Discussion and Conclusion, Results
D. Introduction, Results, Methods, Discussion and Conclusion
18. You are designing an experiment to investigate the impact of corrective feedback on language learning. What is the primary purpose of using a control group in this study?
A. To increase sample size
B. To provide a baseline for comparison
C. To reduce research costs
D. To test a specific hypothesis

19. Which of the following is correct?

- A. Qualitative studies **never** start with a (written) hypothesis that needs to be “tested” by conducting the research. In contrast, quantitative studies **always** start with the assumption that the research topic must be understood “holistically.”
- B. Quantitative studies **usually** start with a (written) hypothesis that needs to be ‘tested’ by conducting research. In contrast, qualitative studies **always** start with the assumption that the research topic must be understood ‘holistically’.
- C. Quantitative studies **always** start with a (written) hypothesis that needs to be “tested” by conducting the research. In contrast, qualitative studies **sometimes** start with the assumption that the research topic must be understood “holistically”.
- D. Qualitative studies **usually** start with a (written) hypothesis that needs to be “tested” by conducting the research. In contrast, quantitative studies **always** start with the assumption that the research topic must be understood “holistically.”

Please go through the extract below and answer question 20.

This study examines the production of 8 classroom learners at 4 levels of proficiency to determine the extent to which learners can and do spontaneously attend to form in their interaction with other learners. Results suggest that the degree and type of learner-generated attention to form is related to proficiency level and the nature of the activity in which the learners are engaged. They also indicate that learners overwhelmingly choose to focus on lexical rather than grammatical issues.

(Mackey and Gass, 2005.p 7)

- 20. In a research paper, this excerpt is likely to be part of the _____.
 - A. introduction
 - B. abstract
 - C. literature review
 - D. methods
- 21. In research papers, the “Results” and ‘Discussion’ are _____.
 - A. always in separate sections
 - B. never in separate sections
 - C. sometimes in the same section
 - D. always in the same section
- 22. Which of the following is central to academic argumentation?
 - A. Claim and evidence
 - B. Evidence and warrant
 - C. Claim and reasons
 - D. Reasons and evidence

23. Read the two statements given in i) and ii) and choose the right answer from the options below.
- i) Research questions seek answers from the study.
 - ii) Research hypotheses are tested to check whether there is evidence to support them.
- A. Both i) and ii) are correct.
 - B. Neither i) nor ii) is correct.
 - C. Only i) is correct.
 - D. Only ii) is correct.
24. Which of the following is **not** part of obtaining “informed consent” in second language research?
- A. The procedures and purposes of the research
 - B. The potential risks and benefits of the research
 - C. The methods by which participants will be assigned to groups
 - D. The impact of the study on language learning

Read the text below and answer questions 25-29. For ease of reference, sentences are numbered in the text.

¹In doctoral thesis composition, the acknowledgment of limitations not only showcases writers' capacity for self-evaluation but may operate to sway disciplinary examiners to perceive caveats in a more positive light, thereby constituting a crucial element in determining the acceptability and justification of research within disciplinary communities. ²Nonetheless, scant consideration has been given to the disciplinary interpersonal strategies for acknowledging limitations within the ESAP literature. ³To remedy the oversight, this study investigated the mediation of interpersonal discursive practices through the *appraisal* system (Martin & White, 2005) alongside any disciplinary variation in the limitations of 120 doctoral theses across hard and soft disciplines. ⁴Results showed prevalent utilization of diverse *appraisal* features, serving to convey authorial viewpoints, negotiate potential alternative perspectives, and fortify compromises with expert examiners. ⁵Cross-disciplinary analyses further revealed soft-disciplinary writers' notable preference for most *appraisal* resources, suggesting variations in disciplinary knowledge structure and conventional practice. ⁶The findings are anticipated to inform interpersonal strategies for delivering limitations, develop the current comprehension of disciplinary modes of knowing and social practice, and offer pedagogical insights for thesis writing instruction.

25. Where do you think this text is excerpted from?
- A. A textbook
 - B. A book review
 - C. A research article
 - D. A feature article
26. What do you think this kind of text is conventionally referred to as?
- A. Introduction
 - B. Conclusion
 - C. Preamble
 - D. Abstract

27. Which of the sentences in the text relate to implications?
- A. Sentence 5
 - B. Sentence 4
 - C. Sentence 3
 - D. Sentence 6
28. Which of the sentences in the text indicates a gap in the field?
- A. Sentence 4
 - B. Sentence 2
 - C. Sentence 3
 - D. Sentence 1
29. Which of the sentences in the text relate to findings?
- i) Sentence 2
 - ii) Sentence 4
 - iii) Sentence 5
 - iv) Sentence 6
- A. ii), iii) and iv)
 - B. ii) and iii)
 - C. iii) and iv)
 - D. i), ii) and iii)
30. Which of the following studies requires hypotheses?
- A. Case study research
 - B. Experimental research
 - C. Action research
 - D. Ethnographic research
31. You are evaluating the effectiveness of a new language teaching method on student outcomes. You collect pre-test and post-test scores from the same group of students. Which statistical test would you use to compare the means of the two related groups?
- A. Independent samples t-test
 - B. Paired samples t-test
 - C. ANOVA
 - D. Chi-square test
32. You are developing a new language proficiency test and would like to ensure it measures what it intends to measure. Which of the following principles of language assessment are you focusing on?
- A. Validity
 - B. Reliability
 - C. Washback
 - D. Practicality

33. You are conducting a systematic review of existing research on the effectiveness of language learning apps. What is the primary purpose of using a systematic search protocol?
- A. To increase sample size
 - B. To reduce research costs
 - C. To minimize bias
 - D. To simplify data analysis
34. You are developing a new language assessment tool and would like to ensure its consistency over time. Which type of reliability would you focus on?
- A. Inter-rater reliability
 - B. Intra-rater reliability
 - C. Test-retest reliability
 - D. Inter-form reliability
35. Research papers tend to be complex, dense and abstract because_____.
- A. the meanings of both ideas and immediate context are made through a single meaning-making resource called language
 - B. the meanings of both ideas and immediate context are made separately through the meaning-making resources available in the here-and-now and language
 - C. it is hegemonic in that it seeks to perpetuate academic monopoly over disciplinary knowledge by making it inaccessible to the outsiders
 - D. scholars need to stand out from the rest in the way they use language and produce knowledge, thereby retain their unique identity

PART B
Section I
Content Questions
(20 marks)

36. Language-specific knowledge about the distribution of speech sounds is _____.
A. phonetics
B. phonology
C. phonemics
D. allophony
37. The word 'configurations' has _____ syllables.
A. three
B. four
C. five
D. six
38. If some language learners develop a fairly fixed repertoire of L2 expressions that does not match the target language and seem not to be progressing any further, their interlanguage is said to be _____.
A. fossilized
B. internalized
C. pidginized
D. creolized
39. The principle of linguistic relativity is associated with _____.
A. Edward Sapir
B. Noam Chomsky
C. Charles Hockett
D. Howard Gardener
40. You're developing a language assessment tool to identify learners' specific strengths and weaknesses. Which type of assessment would be most suitable?
A. Summative assessment
B. Formative assessment
C. Diagnostic assessment
D. Placement test
41. Which of the following appropriately describes TBLT?
A. It is not a methodological construct rather it is a curricular content.
B. It is not a curricular content rather it is a methodological construct.
C. It is a version of audiolingual method though different in orientation.
D. It is a version of direct method, though different in orientation.
42. A space where knowledge is co-constructed by teachers and learners by being flexible and context-sensitive is referred to as _____.
A. methods-driven pedagogy
B. postmethod pedagogy
C. premethod pedagogy
D. postcolonial pedagogy

43. _____ challenges the concepts of 'interlanguage' and 'fossilization'?
- Prabhu
 - Tickoo
 - Kachru
 - R.K. Agnihotri
44. Which of the following scholars conceptualized language teaching methods as 'approach, method and technique'?
- Richards and Rodgers
 - Edward Anthony
 - Dick Allright
 - W.F. Mackey
45. Which of the following is not a result of blending?
- smog
 - telethon
 - doorknob
 - motel
46. Which of the following utterances has deixis?
- You will have to bring it back tomorrow.
 - Jim is going to join Tim and Tom.
 - The teacher said to the student, 'Try to avoid mistakes in writing the passage.'
 - The basket is full of flowers of different colours.
47. The underlined words in the given sentences are examples of _____.
- We saw a funny video about a girl washing a kitten in a small bath. The kitten started struggling and shaking and the girl got really wet. When she let go, it jumped out of the bath and ran away.*
- Homophora
 - Exophora
 - Anaphora
 - Cataphora
48. Assessing needs, examining the environment, and sequencing content are part of ____.
- curriculum design process
 - evaluation pattern decisions
 - monitoring and assessment
 - needs analysis
49. Circumlocution, avoidance, repetition and guessing are part of _____.
- discourse competence
 - sociolinguistic competence
 - strategic competence
 - grammatical competence

50. In the context of language learning, simplified input is found in _____.
A. editorials
B. ted talks
C. advertisements
D. textbooks
51. In the nineteenth century India, votaries of "modern education" favoured _____ as the medium of instruction.
A. English only
B. vernaculars only
C. both English and the vernaculars
D. neither English nor the vernaculars
52. Woods despatch recommended the use of English for _____.
A. primarily education
B. higher education
C. secondary education
D. vocational education
53. The belief that dynamics of social class affects learner outcomes in school is central to the theory of _____.
A. elaborate and restricted code
B. language relativity
C. dialect continuum
D. zone of proximal development
54. "Linguistic imperialism" has been extensively discussed by _____.
A. Robert Philipson and Suresh Canagarajah
B. Suresh Canagarajah and William Labov
C. William Labov and Hilary Janks
D. Hilary Janks and bell hooks
55. Lacks, wants, and necessities are important for _____.
A. language assessment
B. needs analysis
C. practice teaching
D. language acquisition

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PART B
Section II
ESSAY QUESTIONS
(15 Marks)

Answer any **ONE** of the following questions :

1. Do you think Critical Pedagogy has been a part of English language Teaching in India? Justify your answer.
2. What are your views on teaching English through the bilingual method? Argue out your perspective.
3. What, in your view, is the future of Standard English? Draw your arguments from the available scholarship on the topic.
4. Develop a research proposal that
 - explains clearly what your research question is and how you identified your research question/s
 - describes your research methodology including data collection tools and data analysis techniques and the rationale for their choice
 - includes possible outcome/s
5. Explain how you would integrate generative AI into language teaching with specific reference to materials, tasks and assessment rubrics.
6. Discuss how important it is for a language teacher to develop discipline-specific literacies in learners. Explain clearly how you would initiate and develop such pedagogic activities in a higher education context.
7. Discuss the relationship between form and meaning in language with suitable examples.
8. Discuss the statement 'A language is a dialect with an army and a navy'. Substantiate with appropriate examples.

University of Hyderabad
Entrance Examination 2025
Ph.D Admissions – July 2025 Session

Centre: English Language Studies
Subject: English Language Studies

Programme: Ph.D

Q. No.	Answer	Q. No.	Answer	Q. No.	Answer
1	A	26	D	51	C
2	A	27	D	52	B
3	A	28	B	53	A
4	C	29	B	54	A
5	D	30	B	55	B
6	A	31	B	56	
7	C	32	A	57	
8	A	33	C	58	
9	B	34	C	59	
10	C	35	A	60	
11	B	36	B	61	
12	A	37	C	62	
13	A	38	A	63	
14	B	39	A	64	
15	D	40	C	65	
16	B	41	A	66	
17	A	42	B	67	
18	B	43	C	68	
19	B	44	B	69	
20	B	45	C	70	
21	C	46	A		
22	A	47	C		
23	A	48	A		
24	D	49	C		
25	C	50	D		

Notes/Remarks

Recd.