

*St. Joseph's college of Arts & Science (Autonomous)*

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An Introduction to Modern Linguistics (EEN617S)

Short Answer Questions (50 Words)

1. What is Morphology?
2. What is Morphemics?
3. Define Morpheme. Give examples?
4. What do you mean by morphophonemics or morphophonology?
5. What is the difference between morphemes and phonemes? Give an example.
6. What are the difference ways of breaking a word?
7. What is an allomorph?
8. What do you mean by complementary distribution?
9. What are the term 'morph' literally mean?
10. What are the various realizations of the past tense Morpheme?
11. What does the term 'morph' literally mean?

12. When is a phenomenon said to be conditioned?
13. When is an allomorph said to be phonologically conditioned? Or what is meant by phonological conditioning?
14. What do you mean by morphological conditioning? Give examples.
15. Mention the three criteria based on which the morphemes are classified?
16. What are lexical morphemes?
17. What is meant by grammatical morphemes?
18. Write a short note on free morphemes?
19. Write briefly on bound morphemes?
20. What do you understand by the term 'roots'?
21. What are affixes?
22. What are the two types of stems?
23. What do you mean by stem formatives?
24. Give a few examples for stem formatives in English?
25. What are the three types of affixes? Give examples.
26. What is meant by infix? Do we have infixes in English?
27. Which language has infixes?
28. What do you mean by inflectional suffix?
29. What do you mean by derivational affix?
30. Give examples for derivational affixes?
31. Mention the plural inflectional suffixes in English?

32. What are the four inflectional suffixes in English verbs?
33. Mention the two inflectional suffixes in English adjectives/ adverbs?
34. What is the special feature of English prefixes?
35. What are the two types of derivational affixes?
36. What do you mean by the phenomenon of “being conditioned”?
37. What are the three main classes of English words?
38. What do you mean by simple words?
39. Explain complex words?
40. What does a complex word consist of?
41. What is derivation?
42. Explain the concept of compounding?
43. Briefly explain the mixing process of word formation with example?
44. What are the types of affixation or derivation?
45. What is conversion? Give examples?
46. What is compounding? Give examples?
47. What is clipping? Give examples?
48. What is blending? Give examples?
49. What is autonymy? Give examples?
50. What is homophones? Give examples?
51. What are homonyms? Give examples?
52. What are the three basic notions in the study of grammar?

53. Give two examples of parts of speech in English grammar?
54. What do you mean by semantic labels?
55. Define functional labels?
56. Explain formal labels?
57. What does the term 'form' refer to?
58. Do you agree that synonyms are similar in meaning but different in forms?
59. List out the semantic labels of 'sex'?
60. What are formal labels in Parts of speech?
61. What are functional labels in grammar?
62. What is the role of functional labels in grammar?
63. How are words classified in traditional grammar?
64. What do you mean by paradigms?
65. List out the other names of form class words?
66. Give examples of form classes in parts of speech?
67. List out the function classes in grammar?
68. Which classes have a clear lexical meaning?
69. What do you mean by 'open class'?
70. Is paradigmatic classification possible in function class words? Why?
71. Can functors form full sentences by themselves?
72. How can you form plurals of nouns?
73. How many inflected forms are there in a verb? Give examples.

74. What is called periphrastic comparison?
75. Write down the common inflected forms of comparison in adjectives?
76. In which syllable are adjectives commonly stressed?
77. What do you mean by Predicative adjectives?
78. What do you mean by Attributive adjectives?
79. Give examples of attributive and predicative adjectives?
80. What are the specifications of adverb?
81. Where can an adverb be placed in a sentence?
82. How adverbs are formed?
83. What is the function of an adverb?
84. What do you mean by the term adverbial?
85. How many adverbial classes are there?
86. What is the role of adjuncts?
87. What is the role of disjuncts?
88. What is the role of conjuncts?
89. What are intensifiers?
90. What is the function of intensifier in adverbs?
91. What are adverb modifiers?
92. Define 'function class words'?
93. Give some examples for 'function class' words?
94. List the pronouns in English?

95. List out the interrogative pronouns?
96. What do you mean by simple preposition?
97. What do you mean by complex preposition?
98. What are the determiners in English grammar?
99. What are the articles in English?
100. Define Ordinals?
101. What specify the Qualifiers in English grammar?
102. What are the demonstratives? Give examples.
103. What are the conjunctions? Give examples.
104. What are the two major auxiliary verbs?
105. Write down the model verbs?
106. Mention the primary auxiliaries in English?
107. What are the forms in English number?
108. What are the commonest allomorphs of the plural morpheme?
109. What do you mean 'replative' allomorphs?
110. What do you mean by zero allomorph?
111. What is the meaning of regular lexical verbs?
112. How are irregular verbs formed?
113. What are the forms of "be" verb?
114. What do you mean by progressive verb?
115. What is called a perfective verb?

116. What does the term modality refer to?
117. What do you mean by 'suppletion'?
118. What do you mean by 'suppletive alternants'?
119. Write down the 'suppletive' variants of "be" forms?
120. What are stem formatives?
121. What do you mean by stress morpheme?
122. What is syntax?
123. How do some linguists distinguish between syntax and grammar?
124. What is a syntactic model?
125. Distinguish between diachronic and synchronic study?
126. Write on David Crystal's view of traditional grammar?
127. What is normative grammar?
128. Write a short note on normative fallacy?
129. Bring out the differences between prescriptive and descriptive grammar?
130. Show in what way traditional grammar lacked explicitness?
131. What is the reason behind the neglect of spoken form in traditional grammar?
132. Why did the traditionalists ignore language variations?
133. What is meant by historical fallacy-Give examples?
134. Write a short note on the contribution of the linguists of the structural school?
135. Write on the principles of contrast and complementation?
136. What is IC analysis?

137. What are Immediate constituents and what are ultimate constituents?
138. What is meant by construction?
139. Write on the opinion of the structuralists on language varieties?
140. Write on the role of supra segmental in making IC cuts?
141. Write a short note on constructional homonymy?
142. What is substitutability? Give examples?
143. What are the advantages of IC analysis?
144. What do you understand by the phrase 'freedom of occurrence'? How is it helpful in making the IC cut?
145. Bring out the difference between lexical and constructional homonymy?
146. Write a short note on the problem of discontinuity or discontinuous ICs?
147. Illustrate with an example that the IC analysis is inadequate for the sentences involving embedding?
148. How far is IC analysis successful in analyzing combined sentences?
149. What is meant by group genitive? What problem does it pose in IC Analysis?
150. Prove with an illustration that binary cut in IC Analysis is not helpful in all situations?
151. How far is IC Analysis successful in bringing out inter-sentence relationships?
152. Is there any provision for indicating understood elements in IC analysis? Substantiate your answer?



153. How far is labeled IC Analysis helpful in showing the relationships among the constituents?
154. What are the five types of constituents?
155. Explain what is meant by the structure of predication?
156. Illustrate the structure of modification with an example?
157. What is meant by the structure of subordination? Give example?
158. Illustrate the structure of complementation with an example?
159. Mention the different types of ambiguities. Give an examples for each category?
160. Is there any provision for distinguishing the ambiguity created by overlapping ICs? Give examples.
161. How far has bracketing and labeling helped in overcoming the inadequacies of IC analysis?
162. What is an allomorph?
163. What are the three types of affixes? Give examples?
164. Mention the three criteria based on which the morphemes are classified? Give examples.
165. What are the three main classes of English words? Give examples?
166. What are homonyms? Give examples.
167. Define functional labels?
168. How are irregular verbs formed?
169. Bring out the difference between prescriptive descriptive grammar?

170. What is meant historical fallacy? Give examples.

171. Write a short note on the problem of discontinuity or discontinuous ICs?

Complete the following statements:

172. For the production of speech sounds, it is necessary to cause disturbance in the air. Such disturbance is caused by \_\_\_\_.

173. The organs of speech can be described under three systems: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

174. It is mainly the process of \_\_\_\_\_ which produces the air required for the production of sounds.

175. Voiced sounds are produced when the vocal cords \_\_\_\_\_.

176. When we breathe normally, the vocal cords \_\_\_\_\_.

177. The soft palate is \_\_\_\_\_ when we produce the initial sound in the English word 'know'.

178. To produce nasalized sounds, the soft palate must \_\_\_\_\_ and at the same time \_\_\_\_\_.

179. The initial sound in the English word 'you' is articulated by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The former is \_\_\_\_\_ articulated and the latter \_\_\_\_\_.

180. The bony portion of the roof of the mouth immediately behind the teeth ridge is called \_\_\_\_\_.

181. The initial sound of the English word 'will' is produced by \_\_\_\_\_ and by raising the back of the tongue towards the soft palate.

Say whether the following statements are true or false:

182. Sounds are produced by causing some disturbance in the air.

183. The sounds of English are produced by inhaling air into the lungs.
184. The air escapes out of the lungs through the nose only.
185. The vocal cords remain wide apart during normal breathing.
186. To produce a voiceless sound (like the initial sound in the English word sick), the vocal cords must vibrate.
187. To produce an oral sound (like the initial sound in the English word play), the soft palate must be raised.
188. Nasalized sounds are produced through the nose only.
189. In a mirror, you can clearly see the divisions of the tongue.
190. English does not have any sounds produced at the uvula.
191. The lips are kept wide apart in the production of all English consonants.
- Say which of the following statements are incorrect, and then correct them:
192. Speech is always used for communication with other persons.
193. We can study how speech sounds are produced, how they travel from one speaker to another, and how a listener hears them.
194. A description of a sound is complete as soon as we have described how a speaker produces it.
195. In the production of vowels there should be no narrowing in the oral passage.
196. Vowels are best described in auditory as well as articulatory terms.
197. All consonants are produced with audible friction.
198. The sounds that are vowels in phonetic terms become consonants in linguistic terms.

199. How a sound functions in a language is, in linguistics, an important criterion for its classification.

200. Say three words in English, beginning and ending in a consonant.

201. Say five words in your mother tongue having one vowel followed by one consonant.

202. Say four words in English having, at their beginning, a consonant letter, but a vowel sound.

203. Say three words in English where the letter 'y' occurs as a vowel in the middle of the word.

204. Say five words in English having two vowel letters, each standing for one vowel; and

205. Say three words in English in which one vowel (not just a vowel letter) is followed immediately by another vowel (not just a vowel letter).

Say whether the following statements are true or false:

206. For the production of all English sounds, the airstream mechanism is pulmonic egressive.

207. No speech sound can be produced if the vocal cords do not vibrate.

208. Voiceless sounds cannot be heard.

209. If the soft palate is raised, no nasal sound can be produced.

210. To produce a nasal consonant, there must be an obstruction to the air passage at some point in the mouth.

211. In the production of a consonant sound, there must be a complete closure somewhere in the mouth.

212. It is the active articulator that determines the place of articulation.

213. In no variety of English are there any retroflex sounds.

214. The difference between a plosive and an affricate is that, for the latter, the closure in the mouth is not complete.

215. Semi-vowels are vowels that function as consonants.

Say which of the following statements are true:

216. In the production of vowels, no articulation of speech organs is involved.

217. Vowel quality changes with the change in the size and shape of the resonating chambers, i.e. the pharyngeal cavity, the nasal cavity and the mouth.

218. When the soft palate is lowered, the air passes through the nose, and therefore no vowel sound is produced.

219. We can distinguish between one vowel and another by stating the height to which the tongue is raised in each case.

220. Auditory perception plays an important role in distinguishing one from another.

221. All vowels are oral.

222. The conventional vowel diagram is a simplified diagram of the shape the tongue assumes at the time of producing vowels.

223. The line 'close' in the vowel diagram represents the highest point to which the tongue can be raised.

224. A half-close front vowel is different in quality from a close front vowel as it is from a half-open front vowel.

225. Monophthongs can be fully identified by three-term labels.

226. Diphthongs consist of two monophthongs produced after one another.

Complete the following statements use one or more words in the blank spaces:

227. A vowel is tone modified by \_\_\_\_\_.

228. Besides the position of the soft palates and the lips, the various \_\_\_\_\_ are also crucial in determining the quality of vowels.

229. Whether a vowel is nasalized or not is judged by\_\_\_\_\_.

230. English has no\_\_\_\_\_ vowels.

239. The produce vowels, rather than consonants, no part of the tongue should be raised above the\_\_\_\_\_ position.

240. The number of vowel sounds human beings can produce is \_\_\_\_\_.

241. The conventional vowel diagram can give\_\_\_\_\_ description of any vowel.

242. Vowel quality is determined by the position of the soft palate,\_\_\_\_\_, and\_\_\_\_\_.

243 A three-term label for a monophthong must state what part of the tongue has been raised, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

244. In the production of the diphthong, the position of the tongue \_\_\_\_\_,

Say whether the following statements are true or false:

245. Different accents of a language differ from one another in vocabulary and pronunciation?

246. Different native accents of English differ from one another largely in their vowel systems?

247. The patterns of word accentuation in Australian English are very different from those of RP?

248. The standard native accents of English are those which the people in large cities in England and elsewhere use?

249. The most prestigious accent of English in the world is RP?

250. In England many people who want to advance socially try to acquire RP.

251. In India many speakers' pronunciation of English is marked by some features of their mother tongue.

252. The English spoken in one part of India is not understood by people in another part.

253. By choosing RP as a model for teaching English pronunciation in India, we do not expect to turn out perfect RP speakers as would attempt to constantly improve their pronunciation in that direction.

254. In different parts of the world, English is spoken \_\_\_\_\_ which are called \_\_\_\_\_.

255. The chief difference between different native accent of English \_\_\_\_\_.

256. Native speakers of English find it difficult to understand a foreign accent of English in which accentuation is different from theirs because \_\_\_\_\_.

257. Of all the standard native accents of English. RP is \_\_\_\_\_.

258. It is no use teaching a regional accent of English in India because \_\_\_\_\_.

259. As a model for India, RP has manly advantages over any other model. They are \_\_\_\_\_.

Argue the following cases:

260. We should learn to speak with an internationally acceptable accent of English.

261. It is not possible to teach General American English in India.

262. It is not realistic to expect every learner of English as a second language in India to acquire perfect RP.

263. A good approximation to RP is what we should aim at.

Which of the following statements are true:

264. Plosives in any language can be articulated only at the following points: the lips, the teeth ridge, the soft palate.

265. In RP, the voiceless plosives /p, t, k/ are aspirated.

266. In RP, [p] and [f] belong to two different phonemes.

267. A voiced consonant is generally devoiced when it occurs before silence.

268. The k-sound in the English word ‘coal’ is more like the Hindi sound [kh] than the Hindi sound [k].

269. The initial p in the word ‘prepare’ (which is accented on the second syllable) is aspirated.

270. The suffix –ed in the word ‘sagged’ is pronounced /d/.

271. For the articulation of unaspirated consonants the vocal cords do not vibrate.

272. The letter g is silent when it occurs before n.

273. The letters ng are pronounced [ŋ] when they occur finally in a word.

274. The nasal /m/ is always articulated with the two lips, no matter in what context it occurs.

275. The letter l in each of the words ‘milk’ and ‘fool’ represents a dark [ɫ].

276. To produce the fricatives of English there must be sufficient narrowing, but no closure, in the mouth.



277. The initial sounds in the words ‘vine’ and ‘wine’ are allophones of the same English phoneme.
278. While the Hindi [th] is a dental plosive, the English /θ/ is a dental fricative.
279. The last sound in the word ‘airlines’ is /z/, not /s/.
280. The letter r is silent in RP.
281. The semi-vowels /j, w/ are regarded as consonants in English because they function as consonants in this language.
282. All consonants of English require the pulmonic egressive airstream mechanism for their production.

### Paragraph Questions (100 Words)

1. Briefly discuss the difference between the homophones and homonyms?
2. Write on any three process of word formation?
3. Differentiate between derivation and compounding with examples?
4. Give an account of three main classes of words with examples?
5. Write on the difference between derivational and inflectional suffixes?
6. What are the three types of affixes?
7. Give a short note on stem formatives?
8. Explain free and bound morphemes with examples?
9. What is the difference between roots and affixes?

10. Differentiate stem from root with examples?
11. Write on the three main classes of words?
12. Write elaborately on the derivational suffixes?
13. What are inflexional suffixes? Give examples.
14. Briefly discuss the phenomenon of phonological conditioning?
15. Briefly discuss the phenomenon of morphological conditioning?
16. Write a note on lexical and grammatical morphemes?
17. Discuss simple stems and derived stems?
18. Briefly discuss conversion compounding and reduplicatives?
19. Explain clipping acronymy and blending?
20. Write a note on back formation and autonymasia?
21. Write a paragraph on parts of speech?
22. Distinguish between form and meaning?
23. Describe form and meaning?
24. Differentiate form and function?
25. How are Semantic concepts different from formal concepts?
26. Differentiate sex and gender?
27. Differentiate tense and time?
28. Describe form class?
29. Describe function class?
30. Write down the identifying features of Nouns in English?

31. Write down the identifying features of Verbs in English?
32. Write down the identifying features of Adjectives in English?
33. Describe predicative adjectives?
34. Write down the identifying features of Adverbs in English?
35. How may an adverb function as an adverbial?
36. Write a paragraph on Adverb as Modifier?
37. Write elaborately on the pronouns?
38. Write a paragraph on prepositions and its functions?
39. What are the four types of determiners?
40. Write a paragraph on Inflection for Number?
41. Describe replacive allomorph?
42. Describe Zero allomorph?
43. Write a paragraph on Inflection for Case?
44. Describe the five forms of verbs?
45. Differentiate the past-ed (V-ed<sub>1</sub>) and the -ed participle (V-ed<sub>2</sub>)?
46. Write a paragraph on irregular verbs?
47. Describe Primary Auxiliaries?
48. Write a paragraph on Modal Auxiliaries?
49. What are the uses of Modal Auxiliaries in English?
50. Write a paragraph on the inflection of adjectives?
51. What are the three cases in Personal Pronouns?

52. Describe the two basic processes of stem formation in English?
53. Describe Stress Morphemes?
54. Illustrate Latinate fallacy with examples?
55. What is traditional Grammar?
56. Write a note on Historical fallacy?
57. What is meant by semantic fallacy?
58. What is logical fallacy? Give examples.
59. Write a short note on normative and prescriptive fallacy?
60. In what way did the traditional grammar lack explicitness?
61. Compare the attitude of the structuralists and traditionalists towards spoken form?
62. What are language variations?
63. Write on the traditionalist's view of the spoken form?
64. Write on the notions of grammaticality?
65. Write on any two methods suggested by H A Gleason for determining the ICs of a construction?
66. Explain the concept 'freedom of occurrence' with regard to IC analysis?
67. Give the IC analysis for the sentence 'The Crazy boys shouted loudly'?
68. Give an account of labeled IC analysis and its uses?
69. Write on the five types of IC analysis based on the function of the constituents?
70. Write on the various reasons for ambiguities?

71. Write in detail about any five assumptions of the structuralists about language?
72. How is comparing samples helpful in making IC cut?
73. Write a note on discontinuous ICs?
74. Explain with an illustration how IC analysis is inadequate in dealing with structural similarity and different grammatical relations among constituent?
75. Write elaborately on the derivational suffixes?
76. How are semantic concepts different from formal concepts?
77. Write a paragraph on prepositions and its functions?
78. What are the uses of Modal auxiliaries in English?
79. In what way traditional grammar lack explicitness?
80. Write on the notions of grammaticality, acceptability and appropriateness?
81. What is IC analysis? Give the IC analysis for the following sentences 'The crazy boys shouted loudly'?

### Essay Questions (300 Words)

1. Describe the structure of morphemes in terms of phonemes and syllables?
2. What are allomorphs? Give examples.
3. Describe the classification of morphemes with examples?
4. Write an essay on the classification of suffixes?
5. What are the three main classes of words? Give examples.

6. Give an account of the several process of word formation?
7. Form, function and meaning are three basic notions in the study of grammar? Explain.
8. Write an essay on Parts of speech in English?
9. Compare and contrast semantic concepts with formal concepts?
10. Bring out the differences in form class and function class?
11. Write an essay on form classes?
12. Write an essay on the salient features of verbs?
13. Write an essay on adverb as adverbial?
14. Write on how the adverbs function as modifiers?
15. Write down the different forms in function class words?
16. Write an essay on singular and plural forms in English number?
17. Describe inflectional suffixes in English?
18. Write an essay on the five forms of verbs in English?
19. Write an essay on irregular lexical verbs?
20. Write an essay on the forms of primary auxiliaries?
21. Write an essay on Modal auxiliaries?
22. Write on the uses of Modal auxiliaries in English?
23. Write an essay on derivational Affixes in English?
24. Write on the basis assumptions of structuralism?
25. Write an essay on traditional fallacies?

26. Write on the different methods of IC analysis, giving examples?
27. Write on the advantages of the IC analysis. Give examples to prove that IC analysis is helpful in solving some types of ambiguities?
28. Elaborate on the limitations of IC analysis?
29. What is labeled IC analysis? Bring out the advantages of labeled IC analysis?
30. Compare and contrast the traditional and structural grammar?
31. Write on the various methods suggested by H A Gleason for determining the ICs of a construction?
32. Write an essay on how mixing up of criteria resulted in lack of explicitness in traditional grammar?
33. Illustrate Latinate fallacy and logical fallacy with examples?
34. Explain with examples the notions of grammaticality, acceptability and appropriateness?
35. Write an essay on Parts of Speech?
36. Write an essay on singular and plural forms in English number?
37. Write on the basis assumptions of structuralism?
38. Write on the advantages and limitations of IC analysis with examples?

