

M. A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023
BRANCH VII - ENGLISH
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE: CORE
TITLE: LINGUISTICS

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Attempt a phonemic transcription of the following passage. (10 marks)

Since many newspapers – especially their headlines – have little space to explain things in depth, they have developed a special vocabulary of their own. It features short words and tends to leave out articles and auxiliary verbs. Thus, they use “back” for “support”, “deal” for “agreement”, “ban” for “prohibit”, “talk” for “discussion, negotiation”, “probe” for “investigate”, and so on. It also includes colourful words to draw the eye and add interest to a story. So prices don’t “go up quickly”, they “rocket”, police don’t “hurry” to the scene of the crime, they “race”, and so on. A headline that reads “Drugs probe backs cig ban” might translate as “An investigation into drug abuse supports the prohibition of cigarette smoking.”

II. Identify the sound underlined and give the three term label. (5x1=5)

1. Number
2. Party
3. Measure
4. Afraid
5. King

Section B

III. Analyse the sentence patterns of the sentences given below. (5x1=5)

1. My grandmother told me a story.
2. The restaurant served three kinds of barbecue.
3. I am a student of this college.
4. Unfortunately the building collapsed.
5. The people elected the young candidate Governor.

III. Disambiguate the following sentences. (5x2=10)

1. I invited the person with the microphone.
2. The Professor said on Monday she would give a test.
3. Visiting relatives can be boring.
4. One morning, I shot an elephant in my pyjamas.
5. They are cooking apples.

Section C

IV. Write short notes on any four of the following in about 300 words each. (4x5=20)

1. Diphthongs
2. Allomorphs
3. Define with examples:
 - a) Polysemy
 - b) Hyponymy
4. The process by which a pidgin becomes a creole
5. Language areas in the brain
6. Cardinal vowels

V. Write essays on the following in not more than 500 words each. (5x10=50)

1. a. Classification of English consonant sounds with reference to their manner of articulation
OR
b. Morphemes
2. a. Demerits of IC Analysis
OR
b. Any five fallacies of Traditional Grammar exposed by the Structuralists, with suitable examples.
3. a. Synonymy and Antonymy
OR
b. Homophony and Homonymy
4. a. Social and geographical dialects
OR
b. Types of Aphasia
5. a. Significance of the linguistic dichotomy of Langue and Parole
OR
b. Concept of the signifier and signified according to Saussure
