

Option D: English Language and Linguistics

PAPER 19

Linguistics & Sociolinguistics

Marks 75 (60+15) [15 Marks Internal Assessment]. Credits: 6

This paper, divided into two sections, seeks to introduce students to Linguistics as the scientific study of language and to familiarize them with its different branches as well as its key concepts. It will also acquaint students with the different levels of language organization. While the emphasis will be on the formal organization of the English language, the section on sociolinguistics will focus on what happens when language is actually used in society by different sections of people.

Section A: Introduction to Linguistics

Students will have to answer three questions of 12 marks each (3x12) and one short question of 6 marks from this section. (3x12 + 1x6 = 42)

- The scope of Linguistics, its goals, its differences from traditional grammar, basic concepts like langue/parole,
- Synchrony/diachrony, syntagmatic/paradigmatic, competence/performance, signifier/signified.
- The phonological structure of English
- The organs of speech, vowel and consonant sounds, the syllable, word stress and sentence stress, basic intonation patterns, phonetic and phonemic transcription.
- The morphological structure of English
- Morphemes/Allomorphs/Morphs, word-formation processes in English, inflectional and derivational suffixes.
- The syntactic structure of English
- Layers of meaning, surface and deep structure, I.C. analysis.

Section B: Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistics as the study of language in society is to be studied keeping the following topics in mind: Students will answer one question of 12 marks and one question of 6 marks from this section. (1x12 + 1x6 = 18).

- Concepts of dialect
- Standard language
- Register and style

- Bilingualism and multilingualism
- Code-switching and code-mixing
- Language shift and language death.

Recommended Reading:

Crystal, David *Linguistics*. Penguin, 1990

Lyons, John. *Language and Linguistics: An Introduction* Cambridge: CUP, 1981

Balasubramanian, T. *A Textbook of English Phonetics for Indian Students*, Macmillan, 1981

Roach, Peter. *English Phonetics and Phonology*. Cambridge: CUP, 1983

Trudgill, Peter. *Sociolinguistics*. Penguin, 1995 (revised edition)

Romaine, Suzanne. *Language in Society: An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* OUP, 1994

PAPER 20

History of the English Language

Marks 75 (60+15) [15 Marks Internal Assessment]. Credits: 6

In this paper students will be acquainted with the development of the English Language from the Middle English period and the various influences which have contributed to make it what it is today. Besides, the development of the English Language in America and its differences from British English will be another area of concern. Students will also be required to familiarize themselves with the language of major English authors like Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Johnson, Wordsworth, Matthew Arnold and T.S. Eliot and their contribution to the development of the language.

Section A: History of the English Language

Focus here will be on the different elements like the Scandinavian element, the French element etc. and various influences like that of the Authorized Version of the Bible which have played important roles in the formation of the English Language as we know it today. Students will also be acquainted with the changes in various respects that the language has undergone down the ages. Besides, they will be familiarized with the significant differences between British and American English in terms of vocabulary, spelling, pronunciation and other areas. Students will be required to answer 2 questions of 12 marks each (2x12) and write three short notes of 6 marks (3x6) each from this section. (2x12 + 3x6 = 42)

Section B

Students in this section will be acquainted with the language of important literary figures like Shakespeare and Johnson and their contribution to the development of the English Language. They will answer one question of 12 marks and one of 6 marks (12+6).

Recommended Reading

Baugh, A.C & Cable, Thomas. *A History of the English Language* 5th ed., London & New York: Routledge, 2004

Burchfield, R.W. *The English Language* OUP,1985

Freeborn, D. *From Old English to StandardEnglish*.Macmillan, 1992

Wood,F.T. *An Outline History of the English Language*. London: Macmillan,1941.

Jespersen, Otto. *Growth and Structure of the English Language* OUP, 1989rpt.[1938]