

M. A. in English 2012-13 (RCU New Syllabus):

Model Question Paper

1.2 Introduction to Linguistics

Duration: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

Note :
Attempt all questions

SECTION – A

Q. No. I : Answer the following questions :

A. What, according to modern Linguistics, would be the fallacy in the following statements?

1. English has five cases: the *nominative*, *accusative*, *genitive*, *dative*, and *instrumental*.
2. An interrogative sentence is one that asks a question.

B. Which property of language do the following statements reflect?

3. Human beings can talk while engaged in activities totally unrelated to the subject under discussion. A bee in a bee dance, however, is completely involved in the communication process.
4. An Englishman's son will have no knowledge of English unless he learns it.

C. Given below are some statements. Say to what branch of Linguistics each of them belongs :

5. / k / and / k^h / are found in Hindi and in English. In English they belong to the same phoneme, whereas in Hindi they belong to different phonemes.
6. The word dehumanization consists of the morphemes de-, human, -ize and -ation.

D. Say whether the following statements are TRUE. Why/ Why not? Justify your answer in a sentence.

7. In Linguistics the term language refers to any system of communication used by human beings.
8. By 'system' in language we mean recurring patterns or arrangements which are meaningful to speakers.

E. Answer the following briefly :

9. Name any two ancient Indian linguists.
10. What is Stylistics?

(2X10=20 Marks)

SECTION – B

Q. No. II : Write short notes on any six of the following:

1. Signifier and Signified
2. Applied Linguistics
3. Philology
4. Isogloss and Dialect boundary
5. Strengths and weaknesses of Structural Linguistics
6. Notion of Acceptability
7. Standard and Non-standard Dialect
8. Linguistic Thought in Ancient India

(5X6=30 Marks)

SECTION – C

Q. No. III : Answer any three of the following:

1. Discuss the notion of 'Natural Languages'. How do they differ from animal communication system?

2. What are the goals of linguistic theory?
3. Trace the history of Linguistics in the Western world.
4. “Language’ is not a homogeneous reality. It is only an abstraction made in Linguistics for the convenience of study.” – Discuss with illustrations.
5. Attempt a comparative study of Structural linguistics and Generative Grammar
6. Discuss the assumptions, goals and procedure of Generative Grammar

(3X10=30 Marks)