

國立清華大學 104 學年度碩士班考試入學試題

系所班組別：語言學研究所

考試科目（代碼）：語言學概論(3101)

共 3 頁，第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷、卡】作答

Please answer the following questions in English.

- I. [20%] Grice (1975) proposes four maxims that are generally assumed to be responsible for regulating normal conversation.
- (i) Please briefly discuss what these four maxims are. Be sure to define each of these four maxims with the help of examples.
- (ii) In the following excerpt from William Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*, these maxims are violated to create particular effects. Discuss which maxim(s) is/are violated in (a), (b), and (c), respectively.
- (a) POLONIUS: What do you read, my lord?
HAMLET: Words, words, words.
- (b) POLONIUS: What is the matter, my lord?
HAMLET: Between who?
- (c) POLONIUS: I mean, the matter that you read, my lord?
HAMLET: Slanders, sir. For the satirical rogue says here that old men have gray beards, that their faces are wrinkled, their eyes purging thick amber and plum-tree gum, and that they have a plentiful lack of wit, together with most weak hams—all which, sir, though I most powerfully and potently believe, yet I hold it not honesty to have it thus set down; for yourself, sir, should be old as I am, if like a crab you could go backward.

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共 3 頁，第 2 頁 *請在【答案卷、卡】作答

- II. [20%] On December 19, 2014, there was a newspaper article dealing with so-called “Linguistic Cancer”. In the article, the reporter discusses a number of constructions commonly found in contemporary Taiwan Mandarin, including the use of the “*zuo* ‘do/make’ + *le* + *yi-ge* ‘one’ + Noun” 「做了一個 ...」 construction. Some writers and/or scholars consider the use of this kind of construction as a “linguistic cancer” spreading in our society now.
- (i) Discuss whether you think the use of the above construction (and other so-called “westernized” constructions) is the result of some kind of linguistic disease spreading in our society now.
- (ii) Discuss the difference(s) between a prescriptive approach and a descriptive approach to language change.
- (iii) Should linguists adopt a prescriptive approach or a descriptive approach to language change?
- III. [20%] The English word *value* is heard to be syllabified in two different ways by native and non-native speakers of English: (a) *val.ue*; (b) *va.lue*. [The period (.) is used to indicate ‘syllable boundary’.]
- (i) Draw the syllabification trees for (a) and (b). Make sure that you use IPA symbols (not just the orthographic symbols) in the syllabification trees.
- (ii) Do both ways of syllabification conform to the phonotactics of English?
-- If your answer is “Yes”, explain your reasoning in each case.
-- If your answer is “No”, discuss which way of syllabification conforms to the phonotactics of English and which way of syllabification does not conform to the phonotactics of English, and briefly discuss why both ways of syllabification are heard.

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共 3 頁，第 3 頁 *請在【答案卷、卡】作答

- IV. [20%] Four possible causes might be responsible for sound-meaning similarities found in different languages. Briefly discuss what these four causes are and identify the possible cause for sound-meaning similarities found in the following examples. Be sure to give your reasoning in each case.
- (i) German *nass* 'wet' vs. Zuni *nas* 'wet'
[Hint: Zuni is a language spoken by the Pueblo Native Americans in the United States.]
 - (ii) Nahuatl *čokolāti* 'a drink made from the seeds of the cacao tree' vs. Spanish *chocolate* 'a drink made from the seeds of the cacao tree'
[Hint: Nahuatl is a language spoken in Mexico.]
 - (iii) Malay *mata* 'eye', *kutu* 'louse', *tanis* 'cry; weep' vs. Hawaiian *maka* 'eye', *puku* 'louse', and *kani* 'cry, weep'
 - (iv) Malay *mata* 'eye' vs. Modern Greek *mati* 'eye'
 - (v) Albanian *mjau-mjau* 'the sound made by a cat' vs. Polish *miau* 'the sound made by a cat'
- V. [20%] Draw the trees to show the deep structure (DS) and the surface structure (SS) for each of the following sentences. Be sure to indicate the movement rules involved on the surface structure trees.
- (i) Who should the director call?
 - (ii) Who should call the director?