

國立清華大學命題紙

99 學年度 語言學研究所 碩士班入學考試

科目 國文與英文 科目代碼 3203 共 4 頁，第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷卡】作答

國文 (五十分)

一、選擇題：

子、請由下列項目選出戰國策楚策「莊辛去之趙」中「之」的詞性與用法：(單選，五分)

- (a) 人稱代名詞，他、他們。
- (b) 介詞，的。
- (c) 指示代名詞，此、這。
- (d) 動詞，到某地去。

丑、「出太陽，大霧才會散」一句中的「才」有特定的邏輯意涵。在下列哪一個情境中我們可以判定前句為事實不合？(單選，五分)

- (a) 出太陽，大霧散了。
- (b) 沒出太陽，大霧沒散。
- (c) 出太陽，大霧沒散。
- (d) 沒出太陽，大霧散了。

寅、請由下列項目中選出「行之有年」中「有」的詞性與用法：(單選，五分)

- (a) 動詞，表擁有之意
- (b) 助動詞，表完成貌
- (c) 動詞，表存在之意
- (d) 限定詞，表部份、某些之意

卯、「阿Q要畫圓圈了，那手捏著筆卻只是抖。□□那人替他將紙鋪在地上，阿Q伏下去，使盡了平生的力畫圓圈。」請選出最適合填入上面空格的轉折詞(單選，五分)：

- (a) 可是
- (b) 無奈
- (c) 即使
- (d) 於是

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- 辰、【甲】 阿Q應該沒當革命黨。
【乙】 阿Q不應該當革命黨。
【丙】 阿Q應該當革命黨。
【丁】 阿Q應該當了革命黨。

上面四句中哪兩句連用不會產生矛盾(複選，十分)：

- (a) 甲和丙
(b) 丙和丁
(c) 乙和丁
(d) 甲和丁
(e) 乙和丙
(f) 甲和乙

二、重組題：下面的文章節錄自趙元任先生所著「語言問題」，請寫出標號段落填入空格的順序(二十分)：

語言是人類有史以前很早就有東西；_____，成為一門研究跟學習的一門叫得出名兒的科目，_____。這種先有現象，_____—這種時代上的差別，是極常有的情形；_____，可是到了十八世紀，才有關於氧氣的化學；上古人就知道曬太陽取暖，_____，才懂得太陽光是氫氣融合成氦氣所發出來的熱能。

- (a) 比方上古人就會用火
(b) 可是到了二十世紀才有原子核物理這一門科目
(c) 後有研究現象的學科
(d) 可是專以語言為對象
(e) 這只是最近幾十年來的事情

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Read the article below, and then answer the questions that follow.

The tips of dried sage burn in a small cast-iron pan like a row of lit matches. Alex Gwin, an elder of the Hidatsa Native American tribe, carries them from room to room chanting softly in his native tongue. The tiny two-bedroom house on North Dakota's Fort Berthold Reservation fills quickly with the sweet smoke.

Gwin extinguishes the sage twigs and sits at the dining-room table across from John Boyle, a linguist at the University of Chicago in Illinois. The burning of sage "cleanses the house so there is room to talk objectively", explains Gwin. Now he is ready to talk about — and in — the language of his ancestors.

Hidatsa, like many languages, is on the verge of vanishing and taking with it crucial linguistic and cultural data. As fluent speakers grow older and major languages such as English, Spanish, Arabic and Mandarin Chinese overwhelm small cultures, fewer young people choose to cultivate their native tongue. Only about 75 people speak Hidatsa fluently. Most of them, including Gwin, are over 50.

The world contains about 6,900 languages, but linguists estimate that at least half of these will vanish during the next century. Languages are fluid systems, constantly changing and adapting to speakers' needs; death is a natural part of that process. Yet languages are disappearing at an unprecedented rate. Every ten days or so, the last fluent speaker of a language dies, erasing key linguistic information. "Losing languages is bad for science," says Boyle.

Fragments of some are retained in written documents or recordings. But most have never been written down. They vanish without any documentation of their sounds, words or sentence structure. Such information can provide vital clues to understanding how the brain acquires, organizes and processes language.

In addition, small and endangered languages often display rare characteristics that help linguists understand the limits and versatility of language. They may harbor knowledge about the natural world and even offer insight into human migrations.

Yet linguists have not always appreciated the importance of rare tongues. In the 1950s and 1960s, the influential linguist Noam Chomsky proposed that the human brain is prewired to learn language. His research prompted others to search for language 'universals' that underpin all tongues and so offer insight into the building blocks of human thought.

Some field researchers continued to document the quirky characteristics of little-known languages, which often challenged the language universals. "Essentially, every time we find another language, another universal bites the dust," says Doug Whalen, a linguist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut.

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For example, an important language universal involves the order of words in a sentence. An English sentence such as 'the boy hit the ball' follows a subject-verb-object (SVO) word order. In Hidatsa, the same sentence would read '*maagarishdawacee ma'úudabi nigíc*', or 'the boy the ball hit' — a pattern known as SOV. These are the two most common patterns, and certain others were long thought to be impossible.

But in the 1980s, linguists studying rare tongues in the Amazon, discovered the object-verb-subject (OVS) word order, which translates literally as 'the ball hit the boy'. "If linguists hadn't noticed those languages," says David Harrison of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, "we might still have a mistaken idea that OVS is an impossible structure for a language."

By the 1990s, linguists had joined forces to voice their concern about language loss. This spring, the US National Science Foundation and National Endowment for the Humanities established the \$4.4-million Documenting Endangered Languages project. Another nonprofit group, the Endangered Language Fund, is supporting Boyle's Hidatsa work.

Please answer the following questions in English (10% each).

1. This article quotes a linguist Doug Whalen: "*Essentially, every time we find another language, another universal bites the dust.*" Explain the literal meaning of the expression "*bite the dust*" and its intended meaning in the quoted statement.
2. It is said in the article: "*Languages are fluid systems, constantly changing and adapting to speakers' needs; death is a natural part of that process.*" Explain the intended meaning of the expression "*a fluid system*" in this statement.
3. It is reported in the article: "*Hidatsa, like many languages, is on the verge of vanishing and taking with it crucial linguistic and cultural data.*" Explain the literal meaning of the expression "*on the verge of*", and also explain what "*taking with it crucial linguistic and cultural data*" is intended to mean in this statement.
4. It is reported in the article: "... *the influential linguist Noam Chomsky proposed that the human brain is prewired to learn language.*" Explain the literal meaning of the word "*prewired*" and its intended meaning in this statement.
5. It is said in the article: "*Some field researchers continued to document the quirky characteristics of little-known languages, which often challenged the language universals.*" Explain what the term "*quirky characteristics*" is intended to mean in this statement.