

THIRD SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2018

(CUCSS—PG)

English

EN 3C 06—ENGLISH LANGUAGE : HISTORY AND STRUCTURE

(2012 Syllabus Year)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 36 Weightage

I. Answer all the following questions in a word, phrase or sentence. Each question carries $\frac{1}{2}$ weightage :

- 1 Define elision.
- 2 What are the different types of affixes ?
- 3 Explain grammaticality and acceptability.
- 4 What is RP ?
- 5 In which year was Noam Chomsky's *Syntactic Structures* published ?
- 6 Differentiate between vocoids and contoids.
- 7 What is intrusive /r/ ? Provide an example.
- 8 Who is considered to be the father of modern linguistics ?

(8 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 4 weightage)

II. Answer any six of the following questions in a paragraph of about 150 words each. Each question carries 2 weightage :

- 9 Attempt a broad transcription of the passage given below.

Widespread damage to properties and standing crops was reported in the summer rain accompanied by strong winds and lightning that lashed the state yesterday.

Several houses and electronic equipment were damaged.

- 10 Influence of Indian languages on English:
- 11 Which are the various types of semantic changes ?
- 12 International Phonetic Alphabet.
- 13 General Indian English.
- 14 Which are the various intonation patterns in English ?

Turn over

- 15 Binary opposition between phonemes.
- 16 Consonant sounds in English.
- 17 Negation as a transformation process
- 18 Attempt an IC analysis of the following sentence :
They were arguing over the spoiled cricket ball.

(6 × 2 = 12 weightage)

III. Write an essay of 450 words each on any *four* of the following questions, choosing *one* from each section. Each question carries 5 weightage :

Section A

- 19 Briefly describe the Indo-European family of languages and the position of English in Indo-European language family.
- 20 What are the major differences between human language and animal system of communication ?
- 21 What is semiology ? Describe the relevance of semiology in the study of human language.

Section B

- 22 What do you know about the historical development of English language from its earliest times to the modern period ?
- 23 Explain how the Greek and Latin language influenced the various aspects of English language.
- 24 Explain how the writers like Shakespeare, Spenser and Milton contributed to the growth of English vocabulary.

Section C

- 25 Which are the main types of word-building practices in English ? Provide examples for each of them.
- 26 Write a brief essay on Spelling and Spelling reform in the context of the English language.
- 27 Attempt a comparative study of the British and American varieties of English.

Section D

- 28 What are the major types of linguistic ambiguities ? Explain some of the methods of disambiguation.
- 29 Write an essay on classification of English vowel sounds with examples for each of them.
- 30 What are the main advantages and disadvantages of Immediate Constituent Analysis ?

(4 × 5 = 20 weightage)