

Answer All Questions.

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**Part A: Phonetics (40 minutes)**

1. Answer the following questions using your knowledge of articulatory phonetics.
  - a. What are the three main branches of phonetics and how are they different from one another? (6 marks)
  - b. **Briefly** explain the difference between the following pairs of categories of sounds with examples. (10 marks)
    - i. Voiced and voiceless sounds
    - ii. Nasal and oral sounds
    - iii. Vowels and consonants
    - iv. Stops and glottals
    - v. Affricates and fricatives
  - c. What are diphthongs? Briefly explain with examples. (2 marks)
  - d. What is meant by nasalization of vowels? Briefly explain with examples. (2 marks)
2. Use your knowledge of phonetic classifications and phonetic symbols to answer the following questions.
  - a. Write the **complete phonetic descriptions** for the following sounds. (5 marks)  
  
**e.g. [j] Voiceless Palatal Fricative**
    - i. [m]
    - ii. [ʒ]
    - iii. [r]
    - iv. [j]
    - v. [ʔ]

- b. Provide the phonetic symbols for the following sounds (5 marks)
- i. Low front unrounded lax vowel
  - ii. Mid front unrounded tense vowel
  - iii. Low back rounded tense vowel
  - iv. High back rounded lax vowel
  - v. Mid central unrounded lax vowel
3. Use the data set given below to answer the following questions.

[l, tʃ, b, j, dʒ, r]

- a. Identify the sonorant sounds found in the data set. (1 marks)
- b. Identify the noncontinuants in the data set (1 marks)
- c. Identify the labials, coronal and anteriors found in the data set. (3 marks)

### Part B: Morphology (20 minutes)

4. Briefly explain the difference between the following pairs of concepts with examples. (10 marks)
- a. Morphology and morpheme
  - b. Free and Bound morphemes
  - c. Derivation and Inflection
  - d. Roots and Stems
  - e. Backformations and compounds
5. Use the data set given below to answer the following questions:

uninterpretable                      ill-conceived

rekindle                                elaboration

- a. Analyze the words in the above data set by identifying their roots and stems. (2 marks)  
Ex: Word: unhappiness      Root: happy      stem: un + happy + ness
- b. Draw tree diagrams for **any three** of the above words to illustrate their hierarchical organization. (3 marks)

### Part C: Syntax (60 minutes)

1. Using the following sentences as examples, write a **brief** note on the concept of grammaticality.

In your answer, comment on the relationship between grammaticality and meaningfulness/truth value of a sentence using the following sentence as an example.

a. *! The big computer was ashamed of its small microprocessor.*

Comment on the relationship between grammaticality and word order using the following sentence as an example.

b. *\* The professor his nose with his tie wiped absentmindedly.*

Comment on the relationship between grammaticality and interpretability using the following sentence as an example.

c. *Brougs driked the mortrs on a tork.*

(8 marks)

2.

- a. Identify whether the underlined parts of the following sentence are constituents by applying one constituency test per item. You need to use the three constituency tests you have learnt.

*Sleeping Beauty slapped the Prince Charming hard for disturbing her beauty sleep.*

(8 marks)

- b. Draw the phrase structure trees for the following sentences.

i. *The wailing sirens lured sailors to their death with a bewitching song.*

ii. *Icarus dared to fly too near the sun on wings of waxen feathers.*

(6 marks)

3.

- a. Identify the recursive phrase structure rules that are found in the following sentences.

i. *The wicked cruel gerbil bit my hand.*

ii. *The dog in the cage at the manor house barked at me.*

iii. *The broken hearted kitten is really very sad.*

iv. *The thieving monkey ran over the gate into the jungle.*

(4 marks)

- b. Illustrate the necessity of bar (intermediary) level projections to account for the recursive nature of language using one of the recursive phrase structure rules identified in the above section. You are expected to depict the recursion with and without the bar level projections in two tree diagrams to make your case.

(6 marks)

4.

- a. According to X-bar schema, what are the structural definitions given to a complement and an adjunct? (2 marks)
- b. Identify the complements and adjuncts in the following sentence with the aid of a tree diagram.

*A giraffe with long legs sped through a crowd of flamingos.*

(6 marks)

5.

- a. Illustrate the structural ambiguity inherent in the following sentence by depicting the two different interpretations in tree diagrams.

*The enraged cow attacked the farmer with an axe.*

(6 marks)

- b. Below, you will find a group of sentences containing both *well-formed* and *ill-formed* ones. Briefly explain why these sentences are considered to be either *well-formed* or *ill-formed* using some of the linguistic constraints that are relevant to the English language and natural human languages.

(4 marks)

- i. Tom buzzed the bee.
- ii. A buffalo wallowed on the mud.
- iii. An activist hoisted on the pole a flag.
- iv. Syntax requires a logical mind.