

The University of Papua New Guinea

First Semester Supplementary Examination ~ 2007

Course Number: 4.41478

Title of Paper: Survey of Linguistic Theories

Sequence of Papers: One of One

Time Allowed: 3 Hours plus 10 Minutes Reading Time

Instructions to Candidates: Answer All Questions in the Exam Paper as per Instructions

Marking Scheme: The Value of Each Question Is Indicated

Aids To Be Provided:

By Students Administration: Wall Clock

By Communication & Modern Languages Strand: Nil

Aids Candidates May Take into Examination Room: Pens, Rulers, Erasers, Correction Fluid

Name: _____ ID No. _____

Section A: Short Answer Questions

[35 marks]

Instructions: Give a short answer (approx. half a page long) to any 5 (five) of the following questions (7 marks each):

- Q 1 Describe Non-Western Linguistic thought in ancient India and China.
- Q 2 Ancient Greece: provide an evidence-supported description of the Sophists' role in the development of linguistic thought.
- Q 3 "Most of the developments in Ancient Greek theoretical grammar grew out of philosophy, and often stemmed from the *Nomos/ Phusis* debate, which distinguished between that which exists "by nature" (*phusis*) and that which exists "by convention" (*nomos*)." Discuss, with reference to Plato's *Cratylus*.
- Q 4 Aristotle's contribution to the scientific study of Language, with particular reference to *De Interpretatione*.
- Q 5 Describe the general focus of Greek Thought on Language.
- Q 6 What do you know about the Romans and their contribution to linguistic knowledge?
- Q 7 Describe European Linguistics in the Middle Ages
- Q 8 The Renaissance: give a general characterization of linguistic knowledge of the period.
- Q 9 Philology in the 19th century: main focus and achievements, with particular reference to the influence of Darwin's Theory of Evolution.
- Q 10 Explain De Saussure's statement: "It is the combination of the idea with a vocal sign which suffices to constitute the whole language" (De Saussure, *The Third Course of Lectures on General Linguistics*, 1910).
- Q 11 The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis: Linguistic Determinism vs. Linguistic Relativism.
- Q 12 American Structuralism: Achievements and Weaknesses

Section B: Definitions

[5 marks]

Define the concepts listed in ANY 5 (FIVE) of the following items (1 mark per question):

1. Language, Langue, and Parole:
2. Diachronic vs. Synchronic approaches to the study of Language
3. De Saussure's Linguistic Sign vs. Symbol
4. The nature of the Linguistic Sign: Arbitrariness
5. Syntagmatic vs. Associative relations between the Signs of language
6. The Value of the Linguistic Sign: Give examples

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Section B: Definitions

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- 7. Language, Langue, and Parole:
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- 11. Syntagmatic vs. Associative relations between the Signs of language
- 12. The Value of the Linguistic Sign: Give examples