

**FINAL EXAMINATION**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (HONOURS) IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE (TESL)
BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS) IN APPLIED ENGLISH LANGUAGE
STUDIES**

COURSE : SOCIOLINGUISTICS

COURSE CODE : LNG3263

DURATION : 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. This question paper consists of **THREE (3)** parts : PART A (10 questions)
: PART B (7 questions)
: PART C (2 questions)
2. Answer ALL questions in the answer booklet.
3. Make sure that this examination pack consists of:
 - a. The Question Paper
 - b. An Answer Booklet
4. Do not bring any materials into the examination hall.
5. Write your answer using permanent ink.

MYKAD/ PASSPORT NO : _____

ID. NO. : _____

LECTURER : _____

SECTION : _____

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

This question paper contains 7 printed pages, including the front page

PART A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer for each question.

1. Which of the following best describes a regional dialect?
 - A. A language variety used only in formal situations.
 - B. A variety of language associated with a particular geographical region.
 - C. A variety of language spoken by people of all social backgrounds in the same way.
 - D. A variety of language associated with a particular social group, class, or educational background.

2. Which factor is most closely associated with regional dialect variation?
 - A. Age and gender differences.
 - B. Level of formality in communication.
 - C. Geographic location and physical separation of society.
 - D. Social class, educational background and social perspectives.

3. What is the primary purpose of using positive politeness strategies?
 - A. To threaten the listener's face.
 - B. To build solidarity and friendliness.
 - C. To avoid communication completely.
 - D. To create social distance between speakers.

4. Which statement best reflects the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis?
 - A. Culture determines grammar rules.
 - B. Language and thought are completely unrelated.
 - C. Language influences the way people perceive reality.
 - D. All languages represent reality in exactly the same way.

5. Which of the following is an example of code-switching?
 - A. Using a regional accent.
 - B. Using slang among friends.
 - C. Speaking formally to a lecturer.
 - D. Alternating between two languages in a conversation.

6. When a speaker uses indirect requests such as *"Could you possibly open the window?"* instead of *"Open the window,"* this shows _____.
- A. a stereotype
 - B. a regional dialect
 - C. grammatical error
 - D. a politeness strategy
7. Which statement best describes the relationship between language and identity?
- A. Identity is determined only by culture.
 - B. Identity depends solely on social class.
 - C. Language has no role in expressing identity.
 - D. Language can reflect group membership and social identity.
8. Which statement best reflects the impact of culture on communication styles?
- A. All cultures prefer direct and explicit communication.
 - B. Cultural values have no influence on communication.
 - C. Communication patterns are the same across all societies.
 - D. Some cultures prefer indirect, context-based communication.
9. Which of the following is a commonly cited example of how language may influence perception?
- A. Colour perception varies by language
 - B. Language has no influence on categorization
 - C. Language only affects grammar, not thought or perception
 - D. Everyone perceives colours identically regardless of language
10. Which of the following statements about language style are **TRUE**?
- i Speakers usually maintain one fixed style in all interactions.
 - ii Style-shifting occurs only when speaking to people of higher social status.
 - iii Style can range from very formal to very informal depending on the situation.
 - iv Speakers adjust their style based on social context and relationship with the listener.
- A. i and iii
 - B. ii and iv
 - C. iii and iv
 - D. i, ii, and iii

(TOTAL: 10 MARKS)

PART B: STRUCTURED QUESTIONS

Answer ALL questions.

1. Define Code-Switching. (2 marks)
2. Explain **FOUR (4)** reasons why bilingual speakers engage in code-switching. Provide an example for each reason. (8 marks)

3. At a university cafeteria, Sarah and Kumar are discussing an assignment. Sarah says:

"Could we perhaps submit the report a day earlier?"

Kumar replies:

"Let's just submit it on the due date."

Later, when speaking to their lecturer, both students use more formal and polite language.

Required:

Based on the situation above:

- i. Explain how context influences language use in the situation above. (2 marks)
- ii. Provide **FOUR (4)** examples of language variation shown in the situation. (8 marks)

(Total: 10 marks)

4. Discuss **FIVE (5)** factors that contribute to language variation in society. Provide an example for each factor. (10 marks)

5. During an internship interview, Ahmad speaks differently to different people:
1. The interviewer.
 2. His close friend waiting outside.
 3. The company manager.
 4. The receptionist.

Required:

- i. Define the term register and explain its significance in communication.
(2 marks)
- ii. Identify the type of register Ahmad may use in each situation above.
(4 marks)
- iii. Explain **FOUR (4)** factors that influence Ahmad's choice of register in these situations.
(4 marks)

(Total: 10 marks)

6. During a university cultural night, Farah and Jason, two emcees, are hosting the event. Their language changes depending on who they talk to and where the conversation takes place. When speaking to the audience, they use cheerful and formal greetings. When speaking to each other backstage, they use short, casual sentences and inside jokes. Later, Jason switches to Bahasa Melayu when talking to the Malaysian participants, but uses English when addressing the international students.

Required:

- i. Define **context in language** and explain its importance in interpreting meaning.
(2 marks)
- ii. Identify and describe **FOUR (4)** types of contexts illustrated in the situation above. Provide one example for each.
(4 marks)
- iii. Explain **FOUR (4)** reasons why meaning in communication can change depending on context.
(4 marks)

(Total: 10 marks)

7. Marshall McLuhan once said, "*The medium is the message.*" This idea relates to linguistic determinism, which suggests that language shapes how people think and perceive the world.

Required:

- i. Compare how **linguistic determinism** and **McLuhan's** concepts of "*the medium is the message.*" Explain the influence of communication on perception.

(5 marks)

- ii. Discuss **FIVE (5)** examples or ways language or media influence how people think, behave, or interpret reality.

(5 marks)

(Total: 10 marks)

(TOTAL: 60 MARKS)

PART C: ESSAY

Answer the following question.

QUESTION 1

A university student from a rural area speaks with a strong regional dialect. Some classmates assume that the student is less educated because of the way he speaks, even though he performs well academically.

Required:

Discuss how language attitudes, dialects, and linguistic stereotypes influence people's perceptions of others. Support your discussion with relevant sociolinguistic examples and theories.

(15 marks)

QUESTION 2

"Language, culture, and society are closely interconnected. Changes in one often influence changes in the others."

Required:

Discuss this statement by analyzing the relationship between language and culture. In your answer, explain how cultural values, beliefs, and social practices are reflected through language and how language helps maintain cultural identity. Provide relevant sociolinguistic examples.

(15 marks)

(TOTAL: 30 MARKS)

(TOTAL: 100 MARKS)

END OF QUESTION PAPER

