

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI

First Semester (2016-17)

HSS F222: Linguistics

Comprehensive Examination (Close Book)

Time: 3 Hours

13 December 2016

Max Marks: 80

Q.1 Describe the following linguistic terms and give examples. Your description for each term should not be in more than 50 words. **(4x5=20)**

- (a) Allophone
- (b) Diglossia
- (c) Presupposition
- (d) Isogloss
- (e) Polysemy

Q.2 Differentiate between the followings: **(5x4=20)**

- (a) Instrumental and integrative motivation
- (b) Source and goal
- (c) Descriptive and prescriptive approaches
- (d) Free and bound morphemes

Q.3 Many linguists believe that most of the Indian languages will die before this century ends. Would you agree with them? Taking Fishman's Scale for threatened languages into consideration, substantiate your argument. **(15)**

Q.4 Sapir and Whorf believed that people's perception of the world was based on the languages they spoke? Assuming their hypothesis to be correct, how would a native English speaker perceive an Indian society? Discuss any three areas of Indian social life which you think would be perceived differently from what they actually are? **(15)**

Q.5 What is phonotactics? Explain it taking examples from English and any Indian language (preferably Hindi). **(10)**
