

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI

First Semester (2017-18)

HSS F222: Linguistics

Comprehensive Examination (Close Book)

Time: 3 Hours

14 December 2017

Max Marks: 80

Total No. of Questions: 6

Q.1 Differentiate between the followings: (3x3=9)

- (i) Oral and nasal sounds
- (ii) Bilingualism and diglossia
- (iii) Accent and dialect

Q.2. Write short notes (not more than 50 words) on the followings and give suitable examples. (4x4=16)

- (a) Allophones
- (b) Prototypes
- (c) Schema
- (d) Slang

Q.3 Define the terms, Deep structure and Surface structure. Write down the deep structure of the following sentences. (10)

- (a) Didn't you see the professor coming out from the class?
- (b) I don't like writing any exam.
- (c) How many rooms does this house have?

Q.4. Speakers of different languages view the world differently. Elaborate this statement citing suitable examples. Write your answer in about 150 words. (15)

Q.5 The following table presents the status of a few human languages. Arrange these languages in a sequence where the first one is the most vulnerable and the last one is the least vulnerable in terms of their possibility of disappearance. Justify your answer. Suggest 3 steps which can help in preserving these languages. (15)

Language	Status
A	Language is used by the government and also taught in schools
B	Used by the local government and mass media
C	Only a few elders use this language.
D	Language is alive in the community but is neither used by the government nor taught in school

E	Only spoken form is used by the community and visual media
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Q.6. You are an engineering student. You wanted to participate in a debating competition held in a different institution? You went to your instructor and asked for her permission knowing fully well that she was going to conduct a test around that time. Assume that she made the following responses:

“It’s your wish.” “Yes, of course, go.” “This is not the right time.”

Do you think that these responses have the same or different meanings? What consequences are you likely to face when you follow one of these responses? Write the consequences for all the responses. **(15)**
