

**BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI**

**First Semester (2022-23)**

**HSS F222: Linguistics**

**Mid Semester Test (Open Book)**

**Time: 90 minutes**

**4 November 2022**

**Max Marks: 60**

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**Q.1** After going through the details of the sound system of the English language what major differences do you find between the sound system of English and any Indian language (preferably your mother tongue)? Highlight those differences for both consonant as well as vowel sounds? How do these differences affect learning of English by a non-native learner? **(15)**

**Q.2** Look at the following English words. Arrange these words as minimal pairs. Once you have listed the minimal pairs, add new words to make minimal sets for all minimal pairs. If you find any words in the given list which do not form minimal pairs, explain the reason for that. **(10)**

**Child, hate, kite, sweeper, light, pick, caught, height, might, creeper, tick, file**

**Q.3** Read the following words carefully and analyze the syllable structure of all the syllables using C for consonant and V for vowel. Identify the words which end with an open syllable. **(15)**

**(a) production (b) nominee (c) receive (d) extreme (e) choice (f) answer  
(g) sentences (h) funny (i) linguistic (j) quality**

**Q.4** If the users of a particular language pronounce the given English words like the following, how would you justify their pronunciation and what aspect of phonology would explain these variations? **(10)**

**student /                      /,    against /                      /, film /                      /  
prism /                      /, temple /                      /**

**Q.5** Write a short note in about 100 words on 'weak forms' explaining how it contributes in maintaining stress-timed rhythm of the English language. **(10)**

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