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全国 2009 年 1 月高等教育自学考试 现代语言学试题 课程代码：00830

I. Directions: Read each of the following statements carefully. Decide which one of the four choices best completes the statement and put the letter A, B, C, or D in the brackets. (2%×10=20%)

1. Phonetics provides the means to describe the speech sounds, showing how they differ; phonology tells us that they function as _____, acting to contrast words. ()

- A. sounds units
- B. sound features
- C. phonemes
- D. allophones

2. Alphabetic spelling represents the pronunciation of words; but it is often the case that the sounds of the words in a language are rather unsystematically represented by _____. ()

- A. writing
- B. orthography
- C. transcription
- D. phonology

3. _____ morphemes are those that cannot be used independently but have to be combined with other morphemes, either free or bound, to form a word. ()

- A. Bound
- B. Free
- C. Inflectional
- D. Derivational

4. _____ categories refer to combination of words of different categories, such as noun phrases(NP), verb phrases(VP)in

English. ()

A. Lexical B. Phrasal

C. Semantic D. Logical

5. In semantic analysis of a sentence, a(n)_____ is a logical participant in a predication, largely identical with the nominal element(s)in a sentence. ()

A. argument B. subject

C. object D. attribute

6. Of the three speech acts a speaker might be performing simultaneously when speaking, linguists are most interested in the _____ act because it is identical with the speaker's intention. ()

A. performative B. constative

C. illocutionary D. perlocutionary

7. Middle English began with the arrival of the Norman French invaders in England under William the Conqueror in 1066. For about a century and a half after the Norman Conquest, Middle English was heavily influenced by French, most noticeably in large and central areas of _____. ()

A. vocabulary B. pronunciation

C. morphology D. syntax

8. Depending on the demands of a particular communicative situation, bilingual or multilingual speakers may change between language varieties in the middle of speech or even in the middle of a sentence. Such a situation is known as _____. ()

A. bilingualism B. multilingualism

C. diglossia D. code-switching

9. Language disorder resulting from a damage to _____ area in the brain reveals word-finding difficulties and problems with syntax. ()

A. Wernicke's B. Broca's

C. Gage's D. Genie's

10. Studies on the effects of formal instruction on second language acquisition show that formal instruction may help learners perform some types of tasks EXCEPT _____. ()

A. planned speech B. writing

C. career-oriented exam D. casual and spontaneous conversation

II. Directions: Fill in the blank in each of the following statements with one word, the first letter of which is already given as a clue. Note that you are to fill in ONE word only, and you are not allowed to change the letter given.

(1%×10=10%)

11. M_____ linguistics, unlike the linguistic study normally known as "grammar" which sets models and rules for language

- users to follow, is mostly descriptive, i.e., it attempts to describe the language people actually use, be it “correct” or not.
12. Many languages, including English, have vowels called d_____, which could also be described as a sequence of two vowels.
13. A r_____ is often seen as part of a word; it can never stand by itself although it bears clear, definite meaning; it must be combined with another similar form or an affix to form a word.
14. In a complex sentence, the incorporated, or subordinate, clause is normally called an e_____ clause.
15. In the English vocabulary there are two categories of words: n_____ words and borrowed words.
16. “Your money or your life!” aims to threaten, and it is a specific instance of d_____.
17. Back formation refers to a process by which new words are coined from already existing words by taking away an a thought to be part of the old word, for example, *edit* derived from *editor* on the mistaken assumption that “-or” was the agentive suffix.
18. In the 1969 edition of the *American Heritage Dictionary*, examples used to illustrate the meaning of words include “manly courage” and “masculine charm.” Women do not fare as well, as exemplified by “womanish tears” and “feminine wiles.” This indicates that language reflects s_____ in society.
19. The c_____ period hypothesis refers to a period in one’s life extending from about age two to puberty, during which the human brain is most ready to acquire a particular language.
20. Although they lack grammatical morphemes, t_____ sentences in the multiword stage are not simply words randomly strung together, but follow the principles of sentence formation.

III. Directions: Judge whether each of the following statements is true or false. Put a T for true or F for false in the brackets in front of each statement. If you think a statement is false, you must explain why you think so and then give the correct version. (2%×10=20%)

21. () Animal communication system also possesses the feature of displacement. In other words, it can be used to refer to contexts removed from the immediate situations.
22. () Vowels usually constitute the nucleus of syllable, so they are typically syllabic. Consonants cannot be syllabic. The same is true of English consonants.
23. () X-bar theory and phrase structure rules are similar, and they play the same roles in explaining the internal structures of language.
24. () Transformational rules are the rules that we use to generalize the syntactic movement that occurs when a constituent in a sentence moves out of its original place to a new position.
25. () A grammatically well-formed sentence may be a semantically ill-formed sentence.
26. () While conversation participants nearly always observe the Cooperative Principle, they do not always observe these maxims strictly.

27. ()The Great Vowel Shift did not lead to the discrepancies between the pronunciation and the spelling system of Modern English.
28. ()Diglossia describes any stable linguistic situation, in which there exists a strict grammatical differentiation between a high variety or H-variety and a low variety or L-variety.
29. ()Language functions are believed to be lateralized primarily in the right hemisphere of the brain.
30. ()No language is inferior or superior to any other language, and no single human, except those with mental or physical impairments, is a better or worse language acquirer than any other human.

IV. Directions: Explain the following terms, using one or two examples for illustration, if necessary. (3%×10=30%)

31. arbitrariness
32. distinctive features
33. Universal Grammar
34. Move α
35. contextualism
36. comparative reconstruction
37. speech community
38. interpersonal communication
39. linguistic determinism and relativism
40. language acquisition

V. Directions: Answer the following questions. (10%×2=20%)

41. Use appropriate phrase structure rules to draw a labeled constituent structure tree diagram for each of the following sentences.
- 1) The naughty boy cheated his teacher.
 - 2) The old man put the book on the table.
 - 3) I think that you are from the South.
42. Distinguish sentence meaning and utterance meaning by using examples.