**TU/CDOE**

**TEZPUR UNIVERSITY**

**SEMESTER END EXAMINATION (SPRING) 2024**

**MEG / MAEGD 104: ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE**

**Time: 3 Hours Total Marks: 70**

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks for the individual question.* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

1. State whether the following statements are *true* or *false.* **1x10 = 10**
2. If a group of words can undergo movement, i.e., preposing, postposing, or fronting for question formation, they are a constituent.
3. In English, lexical items like *one, two, many, some, a good number of,* etc. are known as ordinals which modify the following noun in a noun phrase.
4. English is SVO but OSV word order is also possible in certain cases.
5. Restrictions on possible combinations of sounds are known as syllabic constraints.
6. In the development of the English language, the Old English period refers to the Anglo-Saxon period.
7. One of the characteristics of Old English was that there were twelve groups of declensions of nouns.
8. Non-gradable antonyms are also known as complementary pairs.
9. That human language can combine sounds to produce an infinite number of sentences is explained by the design feature known as ‘arbitrariness’.
10. The labels like Subject, Predicate and Object are ‘functional’ label while labels like Noun or Noun Phrases and Verb or Verb Phrase are ‘formal’ label.
11. In the English sentence *I will write the letter very soon,* the main verb or lexical verb is ‘will’ while the modal is ‘very soon’.

**P.T.O**

1. Define cardinal vowels as a set of language-independent reference points. Draw the vowel quadrilateral and locate the primary cardinal vowels. **3 + 3 = 6**
2. Explain J. L. Austin’s Speech Act theory in not more than 500 words. **7**
3. “The growth of English as a global language has nothing to do with the structure of the language, it is rather a social and political phenomenon.” Give your own arguments in not more than 500 words.  **7**
4. How are words formed in English? Explain with adequate examples. **10**
5. Following Joseph Greenberg’s (1963) formulation of word order typology, describe the concept of word order as well as phrase level and constituent level word order. **10**
6. Write short notes on *any four* of the following topics. **5 x 4 = 20**
7. The *Ghoti* Phenomenon
8. Polysemy
9. Phonotactic constraints
10. The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis
11. Grice’s Cooperative Principle

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