

University of Eloued/ Faculty of Arts and Languages
Department of Arts and English Language
Second Year Level
Third Semester Examination in Linguistics
Correction

Task 1. Supply three characteristics to each of the following concepts (supply one word only, for each characteristic): (3pts)

Langue: Homogeneous - Social - Conventional - Basic – Tangible.

Parole: Accessory – Individual- Heterogeneous

Task 2. "Values are governed by the same paradoxical principle", says De Saussure. Give examples to illustrate the concept of similar and dissimilar relationship. (4pts)

Similar relationship occurs when signs are exchanged with something similar. For example, the signs 'one hundred dinars' can be exchanged with the signs of the same type: for example, 'one Euro', or ' seven Tunisian dinars'. 'One hundred dinars' can also be exchanged with something dissimilar, such as loaves of bread, pens, or any other thing.

Task 3: Explain how linguistic terms can be united in praesentia, and in absentia (4pts)

Relations in praesentia (in discourse) occur when two or more signs are chained together to form syntagms: combinations supported by linearity are syntagmatic. However, relations in absentia refer the signs that have something in common, and are associated in the mind (out of discourse).

Task 4. According to John Lyons, language idealization goes through three stages:

Regularization - Standardization - decontextualization

Task 5. "Acceptability" in Generative grammar refers to the utterances that are perfectly natural and immediately comprehensible without paper-and-pencil analysis, and in no way bizarre or outlandish (3pts)

Task 6. According to Chomsky, the system of rules can be analyzed into the three major components of a generative grammar: the syntactic, phonological, and semantic components. In your point of view, which of these components is the most important? Justify your answer. (3pts)

The Syntactic component is the most important because it generates the structures of both the phonological and the semantic components.