

Name (please print): _____

Student Number: _____

Directions:

- Please make sure to put your name and/or student number on this exam.
- Mark the answer which you believe BEST responds to the question by circling the letter which corresponds to that answer.
- Please do not leave any answer blank. In the case of multiple choice tests, there is at least some probability that you will choose the correct answer, even if only by chance.
- All questions should be answered keeping in mind a LINGUISTIC framework and no other.
- There are 50 questions on this exam.

1. Sounds that distinguish minimal pairs and are found in the same phonetic environments are called
 - (a) Phonemes
 - (b) Allophones
 - (c) Natural classes
 - (d) Allomorphs
2. Speech features acquire prestige status
 - (a) when they are correct.
 - (b) when they are associated with prestigious groups.
 - (c) when they are associated with stigmatized groups.
 - (d) when they are non-standard.

3. Reduplication is best characterized by which of the following statements?
- (a) It is attached to a root.
 - (b) It is attached to an affix.
 - (c) It is inserted within a root.
 - (d) It copies all or part of a root.
4. The sentence “Mary put” is not acceptable because
- (a) it does not meet the thematic requirements of the verb
 - (b) all sentences must have objects
 - (c) it does not have a subject and a predicate
 - (d) all of the above
5. Which of the following sets of sounds consists only of voiced segments?
- (a) [k] [g] [v]
 - (b) [g] [v] [z]
 - (c) [p] [a] [m]
 - (d) [v] [f] [l]
6. Speech features may be shared by which of the following groups?
- (a) individuals of the same socio-economic class.
 - (b) individuals of the same age.
 - (c) individuals of the same gender.
 - (d) all of the above.
7. In language reconstruction, historical linguists may work on “dead” languages that are attested through written records, but also on contemporary languages for which no written record exists. In such a situation
- (a) both languages with a written record and languages without a written record are relevant to the reconstruction of the proto-language.
 - (b) only languages with a written record are relevant to the reconstruction of the proto-language.
 - (c) only contemporary languages are relevant to the reconstruction of the proto-language.
 - (d) Written records are not important to historical linguists.

8. An important aspect of the Innateness Hypothesis is the observation that
- (a) The input that children receive in the early stages of language acquisition is complete, clear and unambiguous.
 - (b) Children acquire adult-like grammars by imitating the adults around them
 - (c) The input that children receive in the early stages of language acquisition is too poor to explain that they arrive at an adult-like grammar.
 - (d) Children acquire language by being yelled at by their caregivers a lot.
9. In language reconstruction, finding regular sound correspondences between the sounds of two (or more) languages indicates that
- (a) the languages in question have similar sound systems
 - (b) the languages in question have borrowed a lot of lexical items from each other
 - (c) the languages in question are genetically related
 - (d) the languages in question are not related in any obvious way

Phonology problem: The next four questions are about the distribution of the voiceless velar fricative [x] and the voiceless palatal fricative [ç] in the following phonetic data from German.

German	gloss	German	gloss	German	gloss	German	gloss
maxən	to make	sɪçəl	sickle	hox	high	mɪç	me
suxən	to look for	ɛçt	real	lɛçəlɪn	to smile	lɔx	hole
dax	roof	dɪçtər	poet	suxt	addiction	kriçən	to crawl

10. The German sounds x and ç are
- (a) Two separate phonemes
 - (b) found in the same phonetic environments
 - (c) Allophones of the same phoneme
 - (d) randomly distributed
11. Which of the following statements best describes the distribution of x and ç in German?
- (a) ç only occurs after high vowels
 - (b) ç always occurs after tense vowels
 - (c) ç only occurs after front vowels
 - (d) x only occurs after rounded vowels

12. Given your answer in 11., what would be the best rule for this distribution?
- (a) $x > \zeta / V[+\text{front}]_-$ (“x becomes ζ after front vowels”)
 - (b) $x > \zeta / _C$ (“x becomes ζ before consonants”)
 - (c) $\zeta > x / _ \#$ (“ ζ becomes x at the end of a word”)
 - (d) $\zeta > x / V[+\text{round}]_-$ (“ ζ becomes x after rounded vowels”)
13. The **phonemic** representation of the word for “real” is probably
- (a) /εçt/
 - (b) /ɛxt/
 - (c) /ril/
 - (d) Both (a) and (b)
14. Which of the following statements is true of the above data (and true, in general)?
- (a) The allophone which occurs the greatest number of times is the correct one to choose to represent the phoneme
 - (b) The allophone which occurs in the widest variety of environments is the correct one to choose to represent the phoneme
 - (c) The allophone chosen to represent the phoneme has no impact on the phonological rule which needs to be posited
 - (d) both (b) and (c) above
15. Which of the following characterize the participants in the action expressed by a verb?
- (a) synonyms
 - (b) thematic roles
 - (c) functional categories
 - (d) bound morphemes
16. Noam Chomsky used the sentence “Colorless green ideas sleep furiously” to argue that
- (a) the syntactic component sometimes generates ungrammatical sentences.
 - (b) syntactic well-formedness is not the same as semantic well-formedness.
 - (c) syntactic well-formedness of a sentence always means that the sentence is also semantically well-formed.
 - (d) linguists lead dangerous and exciting lives

17. The fact that all children (assuming no neurological abnormalities) follow the same developmental stages during language acquisition suggests that:
- (a) all parents teach their children language using the same method
 - (b) some portion of knowledge of language is innate
 - (c) there is a critical period for language acquisition
 - (d) babies copy one another

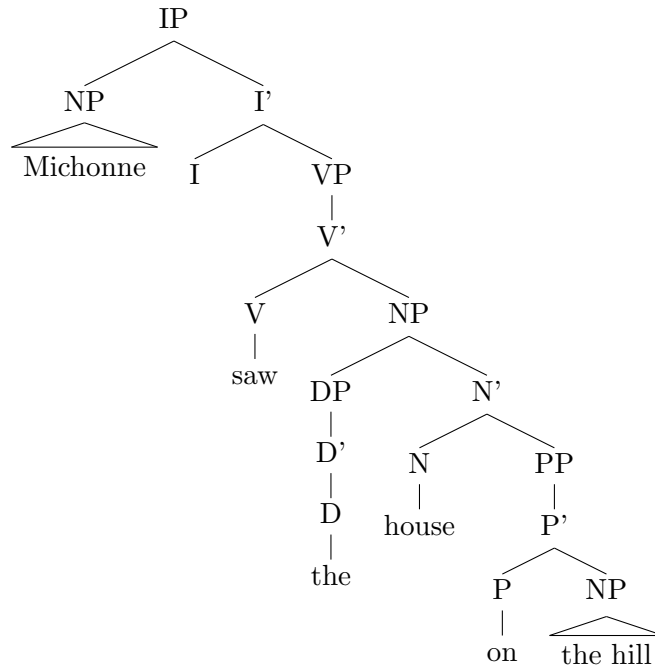
Morphology problem: The next five questions are about the phonetic data from Classical Arabic definite nouns in the table below. Definite means that they can be translated with an English noun plus the definite article (“the moon” instead of “moon”). q = voiceless uvular stop.

Arabic	gloss	Arabic	gloss
alqamr	the moon	affams	the sun
alfaras	the mare	adda:r	the house
alkita:b	the book	azzajt	the oil
alab	the father	arraḡul	the man
almasa:	the city	allajl	the night

18. Which of the following statements best characterizes definiteness marking in Arabic?
- (a) Arabic has five different morphemes that mean “the”.
 - (b) Arabic has two morphemes that mean “the”, /ar-/ and /al-/.
 - (c) Arabic does not have a morpheme that means “the”.
 - (d) Arabic has one morpheme that means “the” and several phonologically conditioned allomorphs of that morpheme.
19. The morphological process by which Arabic forms definite nouns is called
- (a) infixation
 - (b) suffixation
 - (c) prefixation
 - (d) reduplication
20. The morpheme for “the” (the definite article) in Arabic is which of the following?
- (a) /al-/, /af-/, /ad-/, /az-/, /ar-/
 - (b) /az-/
 - (c) /al-/
 - (d) /a-/

21. Which rule best describes the variants of the Arabic definiteness marker?
- (a) Assimilate the final consonant of the definiteness marker to the initial consonant of the noun.
 - (b) Assimilate the final consonant of the definiteness marker to the initial consonant of the noun if the noun starts with a fricative.
 - (c) Assimilate the final consonant of the definiteness marker to the initial consonant of the noun if the noun starts with an apical sound (= a sound made by using the tip of the tongue).
 - (d) Assimilate the final consonant of the definiteness marker to the initial consonant of the noun if the noun starts with a voiced sound.
22. The underlying representation of the word “the oil” is
- (a) /azzajt/
 - (b) /allaajt/
 - (c) /alzajt/
 - (d) /arzajt/
23. Which of the following changes is an example of analogy?
- (a) The change by which Old English /hu:s/ ‘house’ came to be pronounced as /haws/.
 - (b) The change by which the word *davenport* was replaced by the word *sofa* (or *couch*).
 - (c) The change by which the Old English plural *k̄ne* ‘cows’ was replaced by *cows*.
 - (d) None of the above.
24. The sentence ‘I ain’t running up them stairs’ is, in linguistic terms:
- (a) ungrammatical independent of your dialect.
 - (b) grammatical depending upon your dialect.
 - (c) impossible for linguists to generate syntactically.
 - (d) only a performance error.
25. A morpheme is defined as
- (a) a single speech sound
 - (b) a functional head
 - (c) the smallest unit of language that carries (functional or lexical) meaning
 - (d) a segment that cannot stand by itself, but has to attach to another word.

Syntax problem: The next four questions are about the sentence and the tree below (some NPs are simplified).



26. This sentence is
- Ambiguous at D-structure, but unambiguous at S-structure
 - Ambiguous at both D-structure and S-structure
 - Ambiguous at S-structure, but unambiguous at D-structure
 - Lexically ambiguous.
27. The sentence above is ambiguous because
- The PP “on the hill” can modify the NP “the house” or the NP “Michonne”.
 - The PP “on the hill” can modify the NP “the house” (as in the tree above), but it could also modify the VP “saw the house”.
 - The PP “on the hill” can *only* modify the VP “saw the house”.
 - We can’t tell what the PP “on the hill” modifies in this sentence.
28. The tree above is the deep structure representation of which of the following scenarios?
- Michonne was on a hill and saw a house.
 - There was a house on a hill. Michonne saw that house.
 - Michonne was in a house and saw a hill.
 - Zombies! There were zombies everywhere.

29. In this sentence, the NP “Michonne” is
- (a) The subject of the sentence.
 - (b) The object of the sentence.
 - (c) The experiencer of the verb “see”.
 - (d) The theme of the verb “see”.
30. Which of the following statements is true?
- (a) Children’s perception of language lags behind their production
 - (b) Children’s perception of language exceeds their production capacity for a relatively long initial period
 - (c) Children’s perception and production of language are comparable at all stages of acquisition
 - (d) Children’s perception of language never catches up to their production
31. The English words *through* and *threw* (as in “I threw the cupcake out of the window”) are:
- (a) structurally ambiguous
 - (b) homonyms
 - (c) synonyms
 - (d) antonyms
32. An individual’s knowledge of language is, we believe, the result of:
- (a) only the human genetic endowment for language.
 - (b) only experience from the environment.
 - (c) learning a behavior in the same way one learns to play the piano.
 - (d) a combination of genetic endowment and experience from the environment.
33. In sociolinguistics, “code-switching” means
- (a) that speakers use mysterious languages
 - (b) that speakers “switch” between registers depending on the social context and the formality of the exchange
 - (c) that speakers use the same speech features independent of the context of the exchange
 - (d) that speakers use several registers simultaneously

Sound Change Problem. The next four questions are based on the following Burdana data:

	Proto-Burdana	Modern Burdana	gloss
1	*pampura	papura	blind
2	*kawuŋka	kawuka	egg
3	*kantara	katara	root
4	*papu	pawu	father
5	*tjipa	tjiwa	drive
6	*kumpu	kupu	urine
7	*mukul	muul	auntie
8	*parumpa	parupa	wattle tree
9	*mintulu	mitulu	fangernail
10	*manta	mata	arm
11	*pukura	puura	devil
12	*kutara	kujara	two
13	*patari	pajari	fight
14	*jiminta	jimita	scratch
15	*nuŋkun	nukun	rotten

34. Which of the following best describes what happened to *k in the transition from proto-Burdana to Modern Burdana?
- (a) *k was lost between vowels
 - (b) *k was lost when not at the beginning of a word
 - (c) *k was lost when it occurred after another consonant
 - (d) none of the above
35. Which of the following best describes what happened to *p in the transition from proto-Burdana to Modern Burdana?
- (a) *p became [w] in any position other than at the beginning of the word
 - (b) *p became [w] when it was between two vowels
 - (c) *p sometimes became [w]
 - (d) none of the above
36. Which of the following is the *most general* correct statement about *m, *ŋ, and *n?
- (a) *m, *ŋ, and *n were lost when they occurred other than at the beginning of words
 - (b) *m, *ŋ, and *n were lost before *p, *k, and *t, respectively
 - (c) *m, *ŋ, and *n were lost before voiceless stops
 - (d) nasals were lost before voiceless stops

37. Which of the following best describes what happened to *t in the transition from proto-Burdana to Modern Burdana?
- (a) *t became [j] between two vowels
 - (b) *t became [j] when not at the beginning of words
 - (c) *t underwent no changes from proto-Burdana to Modern Burdana
 - (d) none of the above

Reconstruction problem: The following six questions are about the data from Sanskrit and Greek below. Look for regular sound correspondences in these languages and determine which sounds their ancestor language proto-Indo-European (PIE) had. Concentrate on the vowels and the aspirated stops. /ū/ = /u:/ (“long u”).

	Greek	Sanskrit	gloss
1.	t ^h ūmos	d ^h ūmah	‘smoke; soul’
2.	p ^h erete	b ^h arata	‘you (pl.) carried’
3.	stik ^h -	stig ^h -	‘go, climb’
4.	met ^h u	mad ^h u	‘honey; wine’
5.	nep ^h os	nab ^h ah	‘cloud(s)’
6.	put ^h onto	bud ^h anta	‘they became aware’
7.	p ^h ag-	b ^h aj-	‘receive a share’

38. Which of the following statements best describes the correspondences in the consonant systems of Greek and Sanskrit?
- (a) The Greek sound /p^h/ always corresponds to the Sanskrit sound /b^h/
 - (b) The Greek sound /t^h/ corresponds to the Sanskrit sound /t/
 - (c) Voiceless aspirated stops in Greek correspond to voiced aspirated stops in Sanskrit
 - (d) Voiceless unaspirated stops in Greek correspond to voiced aspirated stops in Sanskrit
39. Which of the following is the best hypothesis concerning the status of aspirated stops in proto-Indo-European?
- (a) Proto-Indo-European did not have aspirated stops.
 - (b) Proto-Indo-European had both voiced and voiceless aspirated stops.
 - (c) Proto-Indo-European either had voiced aspirated stops, which became voiceless in Greek, or voiceless aspirated stops, which became voiced in Sanskrit. We don’t have enough data to decide between those two scenarios.
 - (d) Proto-Indo-European had optional aspiration of stops between two vowels.

40. Which principle of reconstruction is most helpful for determining the answer in 39.?
- “majority wins”
 - Phonological naturalness
 - Economy (reconstructing one segment for the proto-language instead of two)
 - an educated guess
41. Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between the Greek and Sanskrit vowels?
- Greek /e/ always corresponds to Sanskrit /a/.
 - Greek high vowels always correspond to the same high vowels in Sanskrit; Greek /o/, /e/ and /a/ correspond to Sanskrit /a/.
 - Greek /o/ sometimes corresponds to Sanskrit /a/
 - Greek final vowels always correspond to Sanskrit /a/.
42. Based on 41., what is the best hypothesis concerning the PIE vowel system?
- PIE non-high vowels (*a, *e, *o) remained unchanged in Greek and Sanskrit.
 - PIE high vowels (*i, *u, *ū) remained unchanged in Greek and Sanskrit and PIE *o, *e and *a became /a/ in Sanskrit by an unconditioned sound change (they “merged”).
 - PIE high vowels (*i, *u, *ū) remained unchanged in Greek and Sanskrit and PIE *a changed into either /e/ or /o/ in Greek by a conditioned sound change.
 - All PIE vowels changed on the way to Greek and Sanskrit.
43. Given your reconstructions, what would the PIE word for “you (pl.) carried” (#2) have been? .
- *p^harata
 - *b^harata or p^horoto
 - *b^herete or *p^herete
 - *barata
44. The term “I-language” refers to
- a speaker’s idiolect.
 - language use and its interaction with social variables.
 - speakers’ mental grammars, their “knowledge of language”.
 - some new Apple product with unreasonably short battery life.

