

# SPECIMEN FOR PhD LINGUISTICS ENTRY TEST

The entry test for PhD Linguistics carries 100 marks and consists of a written test and an interview. The written test comprises 70 multiple choice questions (MCQs) of equal marks. 40 of these questions are from linguistics and 15 from qualitative and quantitative research methodology. Another 15 questions are designed to test the language proficiency of the candidates. The interview is of 30 marks. In order to qualify, the candidate must have an aggregate score of 70 in written test and interview.

The following MCQs are given as a sample for the preparation of the test.

**Please encircle only one of the given options as an answer. All questions carry equal marks.**

1. Acoustic phonetics is the study of

- a) The production of speech sounds in languages
- b) The generation of speech sounds by robots
- c) **The physical properties of speech sounds**
- d) The perception of speech sounds by humans

2. The use of the verb *google* in the phrase '*google it*' represents a case of word formation via

- a) Borrowing
- b) Coinage
- c) **Conversion**
- d) Derivation

3. The bound morpheme *er* acts as an inflectional morpheme in

- a) Actor
- b) Character

c) **Quieter**

d) Writer

4. If a syntactic rule is applied more than once in generating a sentence then this is known as

a) Movement

b) Transformation

c) **Recursion**

d) Complementation

5. When the meaning of one form is included in another, the relationship between them is described as

a) Antonymy

b) Synonymy

c) **Hyponymy**

d) Polyseny

6. The knowledge of the physical context of the speaker is necessary to make sense of t

a) **Deictic expressions**

b) Presupposition

c) Reference

d) Entialment

7. Which one of the following is a feature of speakers rather than their speech

a) Cohesion

- b) **Coherence**
- c) Entailment
- d) Deictic expressions

8. The term Interlanguage refers to

- a) A language which is a mixture of two languages
- b) A system of rules used by the speakers of a language
- c) A system of rules designed to be used by the learners of L2
- d) **A system of rules generated by the speakers of L1 who are learning L2**

9. Which one of the following constitutes an Adjacency Pair in Conversation Analysis?

- a) Two similar questions asked in rapid succession
- b) A mechanism used to repair an embarrassing mistake
- c) An interviewer and interviewee sitting next to each other
- d) **Two linked phases of conversation**

10. Which one of the following statement is true of discourse?

- a) Discourse could be found in interview data
- b) Discourse is how language operates in real life communicative events
- c) Discourse is language at a level which is broader than a sentence
- d) **All of these**

11. The co-existence of two different varieties of language in a society which differ in their social status is known as

- a) Multiculturalism
- b) Pidginization
- c) Linguistic relativity
- d) Diglossia**

12. A hybrid language which develops its own grammar and vocabulary and also acquires the status of the native language of a group of speakers is known as a

- a) Pidgin
- b) Sign language
- c) Anti-language
- d) Creole**

13. The cult of seeing postmodernism as the converse of the ideals of the Enlightenment is opposed by

- a) Jean-Francois Lyotard
- b) Roland Barthes
- c) Jurgen Habermas**
- d) Michel Foucault

14. Which of the following lived during the Romantic Age in the history of English Literature?

- a) John Clare**
- b) Richard Hooker
- c) Allan Ramsay
- d) Samuel Richardson

15. The most important factor(s) affecting the proceedings of a qualitative research is

- a) The belief about the nature of the social world
- b) The nature of knowledge and how it can be acquired
- c) The purpose and goals of the research
- d) **All of the above**

16. Which type of research is likely to make use of non-standardized, adaptable methods of data generation?

- a) Mixed research
- b) **Qualitative research**
- c) Quantitative research
- d) None of the above

17. Quantitative research is best described as

- a) The collection of nonnumeric data
- b) **An attempt to confirm the researcher's hypotheses**
- c) Research that is exploratory
- d) Research that attempts to generate a new theory

18. An entity which can have different values is known as

- a) A cause-and-effect relationship
- b) **A variable**
- c) A constant

d) A descriptive relationship

19. Which one of the following best describes a research design?

a) **A framework for every stage of the collection and analysis of data**

b) The style in which you present your research findings, e.g. a graph

c) The choice between using qualitative or quantitative methods

d) A way of conducting research that is not grounded in theory

20. A variable which can affect a change on another variable is known as

a) Intervening variable

b) **Independent variable**

c) Categorical variable

d) Dependent variable