UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2006/2007

April 2007

HET 521 - PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF LANGUAGE

Duration : 3 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of TWO pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

There are SEVEN questions in two sections. Answer TWO questions from each section.

Section A

Answer TWO questions only.

1. To what extent do you think that the L2 acquisition of children and adults is similar? If there are differences, what are they? Support your answer with relevant examples.

[25 marks]

2. What does **Interlanguage (IL) variation** refer to? Discuss this in relation to the effects of linguistic context, sociolinguistic factors and pscycholinguistic factors on IL variability. Include in your answer a clear explanation of the theory of IL.

[25 marks]

3. What do the terms **local ambiguity** and **standing ambiguity** refer to? Discuss how these types of ambiguity have contributed to the understanding of sentence processing and the models of sentence processing that have been proposed. Provide clear examples to support your answer.

[25 marks]

4. Discuss the empirical evidence from the study of aphasia that has contributed to the areas of phonology, morphology and semantics.

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer TWO questions only.

5. Discuss, with appropriate examples, what is meant by a **standard language**, as opposed to just a **language**, and explain the process by which standard language come to exist.

[25 marks]

6. The term "language spread" is sometimes used to describe the process whereby 'the uses or the users of a language increase' (Cooper, 1982). Discuss how English can be considered as a language that has 'spread' the most in the modern world.

[25 marks]

7. What is the relationship between **diglossia** and **bilingualism**? In your discussion, discuss how 'high language' and 'low language' are related to the two concepts above and provide examples of societies in which each type of language is used.

[25 marks]

- ooo0ooo -