
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

First Semester Examination
2015/2016 Academic Session

December 2015/January 2016

HET 326 – PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

Duration : 2 hours

Please check that this examination paper contains TWO printed pages before you begin the examination.

Answer THREE questions.

1. Discuss various experiments which have been conducted in order to teach human language to non-human primates. Support your answer by referring to studies done on Washoe, Lara, Sarah and Nim Chimpsky. What conclusion can you draw from such studies?

[100 marks]

2. What do you understand by the term *lateralisation* and *contra lateralisation* processes in the human brain? Explain any FOUR studies that have been used to provide evidence for the *lateralisation* and *contra lateralisation* of language in the brain.

[100 marks]

3. ONE major problem affecting patients suffering from Brocha's aphasia is phonological impairment. Identify and explain the typical characteristics of phonological impairment of patients suffering from this type of aphasia.

[100 marks]

4. Explain how the human auditory system perceives and processes auditory signals as they travel through the outer ear, middle ear, cochlea and finally auditory nerves to the brain. Illustrate your answer with a diagram.

[100 marks]

5. Like phonological and morphological development, the emergence of syntactic structure in children's speech takes place in an orderly manner and reveals much about the nature of the language acquisition process. Describe the main characteristics of syntactic development of children's speech from holophrastic to telegraphic stages.

[100 marks]