

SULIT

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Second Semester Examination  
2018/2019 Academic Session

June 2019

**HET 524 - Psychology and Sociology of Language**

Duration : 2 hours

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Please check that this examination paper consists of THREE (3) pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

There are SIX (6) questions in TWO (2) sections. Answer **THREE** (3) questions altogether. Answer ONE (1) question from Section A, ONE (1) question from Section B and ONE (1) question from EITHER Section A OR Section B.

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Section A

1. Compare and contrast two theories of language development in relation to the nature vs nurture debate in child language acquisition.

[100 marks]

2. Discuss the TWO models of sentence parsing and explain how theorists have used sentences with multiple senses to understand syntactic parsing.

[100 marks]

3. Discuss the views that have been put forward by linguists regarding second language acquisition in relation to first language acquisition. Include in your answer the similarities and differences that linguists have drawn to show the link and divide between the TWO kinds of acquisition. What are your own opinions on some of the more debatable issues concerning the TWO types of acquisition?

[100 marks]

Section B

4. Explain Labov's class stratification as a factor in linguistic variation. Elaborate on this with reference to his and other linguists' research to demonstrate issues of class and language variation.

[100 marks]

5. Why do you think people might want to maintain their language when they move to a new country? Discuss with examples the factors which contribute to language maintenance as opposed to those which favour language shift.

[100 marks]

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6. Ferguson's (1959) original description of diglossia refers to a very specific type of bilingualism or bidialectalism, where a particular speech community uses TWO related language varieties for different purposes. Discuss Ferguson's concept of diglossia and compare it with Fishman's extended concept of diglossia.

[100 marks]

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