

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2004/2005

March 2005

HET 323 – Contrastive and Error Analysis

Duration : 3 hours

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

Answer any FOUR questions. All questions carry the same marks.

1. CA is based on the psychological assumption that the principal barrier to second language acquisition is the interference of the first language (L1) system with the second language (L2) system; and that a scientific, structural analysis of the two languages in question would yield a taxonomy of linguistic contrast between them which in turn would enable the linguists to predict the difficulties a learner would encounter.

Discuss.

[25 marks]

2. According to Wardaugh (1970), Contrastive Analysis theory can be stated in two versions i.e. *a priori version* (strong version) and a *posteriori version* (weak version).

Discuss.

[25 marks]

3. Corder (1971) proposed a model for identifying error or *idiosyncratic utterances* in a language learner language and according to the model, any sentence uttered by a learner can be subsequently transcribed and analysed for idiosyncracies.

Discuss.

[25 marks]

4. Selinker (1994) suggests the likelihood of the state known as '**fossilisation**' which is assumed to exist in the latent psychological structure of an interlanguage (IL) system. It is a state where language learners stop elaborating their IL in some respects irrespective of the amount of explanation and instruction the learners have to the new linguistic input or new language instruction.

Discuss.

[25 marks]

5. According to Sridhar, S N (1980), Contrastive Analysis (CA), Error Analysis (EA) and Interlanguage (IL) are three major theories of Applied Linguistics with one goal i.e. facilitation of target language (TL) learning but having different theoretical assumptions, methodological principles and pedagogical claims.

Discuss.

[25 marks]