

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama
Sidang Akademik 2003/2004

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HET 313 - Sociolinguistics

Masa : 3 jam

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER COMPRISES **TWO** PAGES.

Answer any FOUR questions.

Equal marks are allocated to all questions.

1. "Who speaks the best English? Where should I go to learn perfect French? Where is real Cockney spoken?"

Sociolinguistics has nothing to offer in a discussion of questions of this kind: they are really quite meaningless.

Do you agree or disagree? What are your reasons?

2. It has been claimed that computer mediated communication, might affect the way people habitually interact, including certain challenges to traditional interpersonal relations. For instance, people might construct different (virtual) personae for themselves and these might be used to question or subvert (gendered) identities.

Do you agree or disagree? What are your reasons?

3. Many people in the world are completely bilingual or even multilingual in languages with very different structures. Consider this fact in relation to the Whorfian hypothesis. What are some of the implications?

4. In Malaysia, "it may be true to say that the status of English as the "second most important language" appears to depend crucially on the dynamics of the interplay of government policies and directives and the effects of all these on the linguistic market place where they are inevitably pitched against the normal sociolinguistic forces of language choice and use, change and variation."

(Venugopal 2000)

To what extent is Venugopal right? Give your reasons.

5. Discuss the concept of elaborated and restricted codes and the criticisms which have been levelled against it.