

**UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA**

**Peperiksaan Semester Pertama**

**Sidang Akademik 1999/2000**

**September 1999**

**HET 313 - Sociolinguistic**

**Masa: [3 jam]**

**THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS FIVE [5] QUESTIONS IN ONE [1] PAGE.**

Answer any **FOUR** [4] questions. Equal marks are allocated to all questions.

1. Do you agree that terms like “Variety”, “Dialect” and “Language” are difficult to define? Discuss with examples.
2. Ferdinand de Saussure claimed that speech was totally individual, in that it depended only on the will of the speaker and conversely that language was entirely social, being identical from one member of a speech community to another. To what extent was Saussure right? Discuss with examples.
3. Lakoff (1973) claims that the distinction between men’s and women’s language is a symptom of a problem in our culture, and not primarily the problem itself. What kind of evidence would you consider to be relevant to confirming or disconfirming such a claim?
4. Discuss the concept of elaborated and restricted codes and the criticisms which have been levelled against it.
5. Asmah (1992) says that the recognition accorded to English as the second most important language in Malaysia does not in any way interfere with the status of Malay as national and official language as well as language of education. To what extent is Asmah right? Discuss your answer in relation to the different roles assigned to these two languages.