

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama

Sidang Akademik 1999/2000

Februari 2000

HET 521 – Sociological and Psychological Dimensions of Language

[Masa: [3 jam]

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS **FOUR** [4] QUESTIONS ON **ONE** [1] PAGE

Answer ALL **FOUR** [4] questions.

Equal marks are allocated to all questions.

1. Wardhaugh (1990) makes the following observation about the relationship between language and sex:

...men's and women's speech differs because boys and girls are brought up differently and men and women often fill different roles in society. Moreover, men and women 'know' this and react in different ways, for example, seeking 'prestige' differently, women on the whole preferring 'overt' prestige and men the 'covert' variety.

What opinions do you have on this matter, and what evidence seems to you to support those opinions?

2. *"While English is the International lingua franca, the different varieties of English that have evolved are part of the unique linguistic and cultural heritage of each country"* (Sue Kim, 1998)

Assess this observation in relation to the variety/varieties of English in Malaysia.

3. *"We can describe what children learn, but we do not really understand how they do it."*

Discuss the above with reference to the data on child language acquisition.

4. What do you understand by the term 'word recognition'? Taking into account what you know of the various models of word recognition, what type of processing does *spoken* word recognition involve?