
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Kursus Semasa Cuti Panjang
Sidang Akademik 2007/2008

June 2008

HET 512 - LINGUISTIC STUDIES

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. Each question is 25 marks.

1. The linguistic phenomenon known as language change has, in the past, been regarded by some scholars as a negative process. Why? What are your own views on language change? Discuss this in the context of the changes that you observe are taking place either in English or in your own first language.
[25 marks]

2. Do you agree that the rule of coordination is another instance of recursion? Why? Discuss with examples.
[25 marks]

3. Syllables are treated as units of phonological structure as they are relevant to stating generalisations about the distribution of allophonic features. Discuss this with regard to aspiration in English voiceless stops and phonetic length in English vowels.
[25 marks]

4. What is the nature of affixation in English? Discuss this with regard to the issue of whether a given affix in English always attaches itself only to one part of speech. Support with examples.
[25 marks]

5. Discuss the Referential theory of word meaning and the Denotative theory of word meaning.
[25 marks]

6. Would you argue against the claim that **performance presupposes competence, while competence does not presuppose performance?** Why?
[25 marks]