
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2007/2008

April 2008

HXE 205 – LANGUAGE LEARNING THEORIES

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.

1. What is the role of correction and reinforcement in first language acquisition?
[25 marks]
2. What is the innatist view of language acquisition? Discuss the support for this view.
[25 marks]
3. What are the major stages that a child has to follow in first language development? Discuss the features of the linguistic forms at each stage?
[25 marks]
4. How do learner factors potentially influence the way in which a second language is acquired?
[25 marks]
5. Discuss the differences between acquisition and learning according to Krashen.
[25 marks]
6. What is contrastive analysis (CA)? Discuss the role of transfer in CA based on this statement:
"Where two languages were similar, positive transfer would occur; where they were different, negative transfer, or interference, would result."

(Larsen-Freeman & Long, 1991)

[25 marks]