

POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A

SECOND LANGUAGE

FINAL EXAMINATION

LSP 2202 APPLIED LINGUSTICS

(English)

2010 MAY



**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

APPLIED LINGUISTICS – LSP 2202

FINAL EXAMINATION – MAY 2010

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

DATE : 21/05/2010

TIME : 9.30 A.M. - 12.30 P.M.

Answer any four (04) questions.

1. Applied Linguistics offers solutions to “real world problems in which language is a central issue” (Brumfit 1991). Discuss this description of Applied Linguistics using examples from your own experience.
2. While comprehensible input is necessary, that alone is not sufficient to enable development of a learner’s Interlanguage. In the light of this statement, discuss the significance of the Interaction and Output models of language acquisition. Use examples from the Sri Lankan context where necessary.
3. “Both contrastive analysis and error analysis should play a major role in the explanation of the second language acquisition process.” How far do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer using examples from the Sri Lankan context.
4. “...Language learning is assisted through the social interaction of learners and their interlocutors, particularly when they negotiate toward mutual comprehension of each other’s message meaning” (Pica et al., 1993). Comment on the significance of task-based learning in language classrooms in the light of this statement.

5. "Adult language learners exhibit a number of special characteristics: Good teachers of adults have to take these characteristics into account." In relation to this statement, discuss the role of a teacher of adult learners within the classroom. Use examples to illustrate where necessary.

6. Bloomfield states that "... the first language a human being learns to speak is his native language, he is a native speaker of this language" (1933). Is this an adequate definition of the term 'native speaker'? Discuss, using examples from the global and/or Sri Lankan context to illustrate your answer.

7. Explain the term "corpus-based approach to language teaching", and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this approach in teaching English as a Second Language.