

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

029

B.A IN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING -

LEVEL 6

FINAL EXAMINATION

July 2009

PSYCHOLINGUISTICS & SOCIOLINGUISTICS

LSU 4301

DURATION

THREE HOURS (03 hours)



DATE: 01. 07. 2009

TIME:

1.30 pm. - 4.30pm.

ANSWER 4 QUESTIONS CHOOSING 2 FROM PART (A) and 2 FROM (B).

PART - A

- 1) Write short notes on each of the following terms. Your answer should explain the concepts and include examples from your own social network or community:
 - a) Situation
 - b) Situational shifts
- 2) Define the term Metaphorical Switching and explain the conditions under which this Sociolinguistic phenomenon takes place.
- 3) "Wherever two or more speech communities maintain prolonged contact within a broad field of communication, there are cross-currents of diffusion." (Gumperz, 1968). Discuss.
- 4) According to Gumperz (1968) "Language loyalty may become a political issue in a modernizing society when hitherto socially isolated minority groups become mobilized". Explain what "Language loyalty" is and discuss the above statement in relation to the language situation in Sri Lanka.
- 5) Explain the terms "the power semantic" and "the solidarity semantic" in relation to any two Sri Lankan languages that you are familiar with.

Part - B

- 6) Different models have been proposed to explain how the human brain processes the syntax of sentences. Describe and critically evaluate at least 2 models.
- 7) Discuss the phenomena of developmental language disorders and acquired language disorders giving examples to illustrate your point.
- 8) "Some language disorders occur due to malfunctions of certain areas of the brain!" Explain. What measures can schools / parents adopt to minimize the damage caused by language disorders?
- 9) How does child - directed speech facilitate first language acquisition?
- 10) "The ability to read develops systematically over time." Discuss.
- 11) "The two contemporary, er.. sorry adjacent buildings..." What do such slips of the tongue reveal about the organization of the mental lexicon?