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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.A IN ENGLISH AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 6

FINAL EXAMINATION - October 2015

PSYCHOLINGUISTICS & SOCIOLINGUISTICS - LSU 4301

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 16. 10. 2015 TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30pm.

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

PART – A

1. Write short notes on any five (05) of the following pairs of terms, comparing them where necessary
   a. National language and Official language
   b. Variant and Variable in sociolinguistics
   c. Diglossia and Bilingualism
   d. Universalist and Relativist positions on language and thought
   e. Pidgins and Creoles
   f. Standard Language and Dialect

2. What is the predominant finding in language research related to social class and gender? Give possible reasons for the truth of these findings and the limitations of the studies.

3. What is Linguistic Sexism and what strategies have been suggested to counter it?

4. What are language attitudes, why are they important and how are they measured?

(50 marks)

PART –B

5. "Unlike physical development, language development does not occur without social interaction or a child's interaction with the environment". Discuss the role of adults in language development during infancy and early childhood, giving examples where necessary.

6. What are 'acquired disorders of language'? Describe the features of **two** acquired disorders in detail. Elaborate your answer with examples.

7. How are lexical items stored in our mental lexicon? Discuss the process that enables us to retrieve lexical items from the lexicon. Elaborate your answer with examples.

8. Write short notes on the following.

   a) Hemisphere dominance and lateralization of the brain

   b) Working memory

   c) Critical Period Hypothesis

(50 marks)