

FINAL EXAM (Time: 2 hours)



I. EXERCISES:

COMPLETE ALL EXERCISES ON THIS SHEET!

1. Provide an example from English for each of the following expressions.
(20 points)

1. Performative verb: _____
2. Metaphor: _____
3. Gradable antonyms: _____
4. An anomalous sentence: _____
5. Euphemism: _____
6. Place deixis: _____
7. Homographs: _____
8. Commissive speech act: _____
9. Bound pronoun: _____
10. Lexical ambiguity: _____

2. For each conversational excerpt, name a Gricean maxim that has been violated and give a plausible motivation for the violation. (10 points)

1. **A: Would you like to go out with Amy?**
B: Is the Pope Catholic?

Violated Maxim: _____

Explanation:

2. **A: Would you like to hear me singing "Feelings"?**
B: Yes, of course. I'd love to. (It's actually the last thing B wants to hear.)

Violated Maxim: _____

Explanation:

II. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. Provide an appropriate DEFINITION for each of the following expressions.
(10 points)

1. Regional dialect (vs. accent)
2. Lingua franca
3. Pidgin
4. Directive speech act
5. Semantic property

2. Answer TWO of the three following questions (15 points each):

- a. Briefly discuss the two main theories that have attempted to account for the development of Ebonics and for the differences between Ebonics and Standard American English. In your opinion, which theory is more convincing, and why?
- b. Advertisers often use implicature to persuade consumers. Explain the distinction between implicature and entailment, then describe and give examples of three techniques used in advertising in order to “implicate a lot and entail little.”
- c. Describe and give examples of three phonological features of Ebonics and two syntactic differences between Ebonics and Standard American English.

III. LONG ANSWER QUESTION:

Write an organized, well-developed essay addressing ALL of the following questions: (30 points)

1. What is Standard American English? It is easy to define? Why or why not?
2. In your opinion, is a “standard” dialect of a particular language *superior* in any aspect to other dialects of that language? Why or why not?
3. Provide examples of judgments people have made as to the superiority or inferiority of a particular language or dialect. Are such judgments linguistic ones, in your opinion? Explain.
4. Can language in itself be “filthy” (e.g. taboo expressions) or “clean”? Can it be “good” or “evil” (e.g. sexist or racist language)? Explain.

GOOD LUCK! ☺