

國立嘉義大學九十六學年度  
外國語言學系碩士班招生考試試題

科目：語言學概論

1. Examine the data below and answer the questions that follow. (25%)

Yawelmani

Durative	Aorist	
[xatal]	[xathin]	'eat'
[giyal]	[giyhin]	'touch'
[me:kal]	[mekhin]	'swallow'
[sa:pal]	[saphin]	'burn'
[ʔamlal]	[ʔa:milhin]	'help'
[sental]	[se:nithin]	'smell'

Note: the suffix of *durative* is *-al* and the suffix of *aorist* is *-hin*.

Q1. What are the underlying representations of the words in the above list? For each word, there are two possibilities. What makes you choose one rather than the other? (7%)

Q2. There are two types of phonological process above. Describe them in prose and explain why they should occur in Yawelmani. (9%)

Q3. Write two phonological rules to represent these two kinds of process. Then, choose two typical examples from the list to demonstrate how your rules can correctly derive the surface representations. (9%)

2. Examine the data below and answer the questions that follow. (20%)

李四昨天下午五點在看電視。

\*李四昨天下午五點看著電視。

??李四整個下午在看電視，什麼事也不做。

李四整個下午看著電視，什麼事也不做。

Q1. In Mandarin, both *zai* (在) and *zhe* (著) are considered imperfective aspect markers. However, they have a subtle difference. Based on the examples above, what difference do you think *zai* and *zhe* have? (10%)

張三手裏握著電話。 \*張三高興地蓋著那棟房子。

張三慢慢地騎著腳踏車。 \*張三慢慢地寫著那封信。

張三心裏暗暗高興著。 \*張三高興地抵達著嘉義。

張三輕鬆地跑著。

Q2. Given the data above, what kind of predicate is compatible with *zhe* and what kind is not? Does your answer to this question require any revision of your answer to Q1? Elaborate. (10%)

3. Semantics is the study of meaning. What is meaning has been a question that many philosophers and scientists try to answer. There are two major approaches to meaning. One is the representational approach and the other the referential approach. Briefly explain what these two approaches say about meaning and identify their problems. Use examples whenever necessary. (15%)

4. Examine the following data of Middle English and Modern English. State, in prose, the changes that have occurred in the history of English based on these data. Make your statement as general as the data permit. Please also state the changes in terms of phonological rules. If rule ordering is significant, indicate the correct order of the rules. (20%)

Middle English	Modern English	Gloss
mɔθ	mɔθ	<i>moth</i>
krɔs	krɔs	<i>cross</i>
sɔft	sɔft	<i>soft</i>
fɔks	faks	<i>fox</i>
kɔt	kat	<i>cot</i>
stɔp	stap	<i>stop</i>
bɔlt	bolt	<i>bolt</i>
tɔl	tol	<i>toll</i>
knɔl	nol	<i>knoll</i>
bɔxt	bɔt	<i>bought</i>
knɔt	nat	<i>knot</i>

5. Suppose you are teaching Mandarin as a second language to a young Japanese man. You ask him to pronounce 害怕, but he (habitually) pronounces it as 害爸. How can you correct him? (10%)

6. A language test requires the testees to use a pencil to write answers. Chih-wei finds that he does not have a pencil so he speaks to Yun-ling: (A) 鉛筆借我一下好嗎? (B) 鉛筆借我，好不好? If you were Chih-wei, would you say (A) or (B)? Why? Explain the differences of (A) and (B) in a linguistic way. (10%)