國立嘉義大學九十五學年度

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 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	*moth*
krɔs	krɔs	*cross*
sɔft	sɔft	*soft*
fɔks	faks	*fox*
kɔt	kat	*cot*
stɔp	stap	*stop*
bɔlt	bolt	*bolt*
tɔl	tol	*toll*
knɔl	nol	*knoll*
bɔxt	bɔt	*bought*
knɔt	nat	*knot*
dɔxtər	dɔtər	*daughter*
mɔld	mold	*mold*
dɔg	dag	*dog*

2. A *discourse* is not just a collection of any sentences. The sentences in a discourse must be related to each other to be a coherent discourse. Examine the following discourses. Explain why some discourses you consider coherent and why the others you consider incoherent. And, for those incoherent ones, try to correct them and make them coherent. Please also explain why your corrections can render an incoherent discourse coherent. (20%)

    (a) My mom will come to Chiayi to visit me tonight. I am going to meet her at Platform II.

    (b) John arrived in Edinburgh by train. Max's hair was black.

    (c) We went to an expensive restaurant last night. The waiter was very nice.

    (d) We went to a movie last weekend. The gentleman was very nice.

    (e) Jade's friend will come to Chiayi to visit her tonight. She will meet him at the convenience store.

3. Examine the following English data and, based on the data below, formulate rules to locate the antecedent for a reflexive. (30%)

    (a) Poirot$_i$ hurt himself$_i$.

    (b) *Miss Marple$_i$ hurt himself$_i$.

    (c) *Poirot$_i$ hurt herself$_i$.

    (d) *Poirot$_i$ hurt themselves$_i$.

    (e) *Poirot$_i$ hurt myself$_i$.

    (f) *Poirot$_i$ thinks that Miss Marple hurt himself$_i$.

    (g) Miss Marple thinks that Poirot$_i$ hurt himself$_i$.

    (h) Poirot$_i$ invited himself$_i$.

    (i) *Poirot$_i$'s sister invited himself$_i$.

    (j) [$_{IP}$ [$_{NP_j}$ [$_{NP_i}$ Poirot]'s brother] invited himself$_j$.]

    (k) *Poirot$_i$ believes [$_{CP}$ that [$_{IP}$ himself$_i$ to be the best]].

    (l) *Poirot$_i$ believes [$_{NP}$ Miss Marple's description of himself$_i$].

    (m) Poirot$_i$ believes [$_{NP}$ any description of himself$_i$].

    (n) Miss Marple believes [$_{NP}$ Poirot$_i$'s description of himself$_i$].

Then, examine the following data of reciprocal verbs in Mandarin. With respect to locating antecedents, reciprocals are considered the same as reflexives. Can your rules for English reflexives also work for the data on Mandarin reciprocal verbs? Explain your answer. How does *duifang* 'the other, each other' in the following data find its antecedent? (RCP is an abbreviated form for reciprocal prefix.)

    (o) [zhangsan lisi]$_i$ hu-cheng   duifang$_i$ wei hao pengyou
        Zhangsan Lisi   RCP-call   each other   as good friend
        '[Zhangsan and Lisi]$_i$ address to each other$_i$ good friends.'
        張三李四互稱對方為好朋友。

    (p) [zhangsan lisi]$_i$ hu-cheng   [wangwu zhaoliu]$_j$ zhidoa   duifang$_{i/*j}$ zuobi
        Zhangsan Lisi   RCP-claim   Wangwu Zhaoliu   know   each other   cheat
        '[Zhangsan and Lisi]$_i$ claimed that [Wangwu and Zhaoliu]j knew that each other$_i$ cheated.'
        張三李四互稱王五趙六知道對方作弊。

    (q) [zhangsan lisi]$_i$ hu-cheng   [wangwu zhaoliu]$_j$ zhidoa   [xiaomei he axin]$_k$ …
                                                                          kandao   duifang$_{i/*j/*k}$ zuobi
        Zhangsan Lisi RCP-claim Wangwu Zhaoliu   know   Xiaomei and Axin …
                                                                          see   each other   cheat
        '[Zhangsan and Lisi]$_i$ claimed that [Wangwu and Zhaoliu]$_j$ knew that [Xiaomei and Axin]$_k$ saw that each other$_{i/*j/*k}$ cheated.'
        張三李四互稱王五趙六知道小美和阿信看到對方作弊。

4. Is babbling a stage of language acquisition or is it actually pre-language acquisition? Justify your answers. (10%)

5. What are the thematic structures of the verbs in the following sentences? Why do you think so? Elaborate. (20 %)

    (a) John swam in the big swimming pool in the park.

    (b) Mary jogged in the park.

    (c) John found Mary's watch in the closet.

    (d) John planted several trees into his backyard.

    (e) John watched TV in his big house.