
电子科技大学

2016 年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

考试科目：846 英语语言学基础知识及运用

注：无机读卡，所有答案必须写在答题纸上，写在试卷或草稿纸上均无效。

I. Define the following terms with examples if necessary (30 points, 5 points each):

1. articulatory phonetics
2. blending
3. exocentric construction
4. complementary antonymy
5. locutionary act
6. performative function of language

II. Make a judgment and an evaluation of the following with your own reasons (20 points, 4 points each):

1. Black English is not standard and should be reformed and standardized.
2. All languages have three major components: a sound system, a system of lexicogrammar and a system of semantics.
3. Languages are intimately related to the societies and the individuals who use them.
4. There exists a discrepancy between competence and performance in normal language users because of such reasons as ethnic background, socioeconomic status, region of the country and the language user's physical state changes, etc.
5. Schemata play an important role in language processing. Schemata operate in a top-down or conceptually driven way to facilitate interpretation of environmental stimuli.

III. Briefly answer the following questions (45 points; 9 points each):

1. Please briefly explain the differences between the three sub-branches of syntax, semantics and pragmatics from the perspective of linguistic signs.
2. Please cite some examples to show how suprasegmental features are important in language communication (the suprasegmental features include syllable, stress, tone, and intonation).
3. Though the surface structures of the following two sentences are the same, they mean differently, why? Use what you know about linguistic theories to explain.
1) I persuaded John to leave Mary. 2) I promised John to leave Mary.
4. How do you think about the two versions of translation about the Chinese “小心地滑”: “Caution! Wet Floor.” or “Carefully Slide”? Use whatever linguistic theory you know to explain.

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5. Some “magic words” like “thank you” and “please” are more frequently used in an English speaking country than they will in a Chinese speaking society. One of the explanations for this phenomenon may go like this: Look, these foreigners are really more polite than our countrymen.

Try to use your knowledge in sociolinguistics and make comments on this understanding of cultural differences.

IV. Discuss the following questions in detail (55 points, 10 points for the first, 15 points for 2—4 each):

1. Briefly exemplify the different types of the sense relation of homonymy.
2. Use one or two examples to explain the theory of conversational implicature in pragmatics.
3. Please clarify what you know about Halliday’s Systemic-Functional Grammar, especially his metafunction theory.
4. Please analyze the poem below from the semantic point of view, taking a special account of sense relations:

Coloured

Dear White Fella	You White Fella
Couple things you should know—	When you born, you pink
When I born, I black	When you grow up, you white
When I grow up, I black	When you go in sun, you red
When I go in sun, I black	When you cold, you blue
When I cold, I black	When you scared, you yellow
When I scared, I black	When you sick, you green
When I sick, I black	And when you die, you grey
And when I die—I still black	And you have the cheek
	To call me coloured?