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国内外经典教材辅导系列·英语类

# 胡壮麟《语言学教程》(第3、4版)

## 笔记和考研真题详解

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# 胡壮麟《语言学教程》(第3、4版) 笔记和考研真题详解

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## 内 容 提 要

本书是语言学经典教材《语言学教程》(第3、4版)(胡壮麟主编,北京大学出版社)的学习辅导书。全书完全遵循第3、4版教材的章目编排,共分12章,每章由两部分组成:第一部分为复习笔记(中英文对照),总结本章的重点难点;第二部分是考研真题与典型题详解,精选名校经典考研真题及相关习题,并提供了详细的参考答案。

圣才考研网([www.100exam.com](http://www.100exam.com))提供胡壮麟《语言学教程》网授精讲班【教材精讲+考研真题申讲】、经典教材与考研真题解析【视频图书】(详细介绍参见本书书前彩页)。购书享受大礼包增值服务【100元网授班+20元真题模考+20元圣才学习卡】。本书特别适用于参加研究生入学考试指定考研参考书目为《语言学教程》(第3、4版)的考生,也可供各大院校学习语言学的师生参考。

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# 序 言

我国各大院校一般都把国内外通用的权威教科书作为本科生和研究生学习专业课程的参考教材,这些教材甚至被很多考试(特别是硕士和博士入学考试)和培训项目作为指定参考书。为了帮助读者更好地学习专业课,我们有针对性地编著了一套与国内外教材配套的复习资料,并提供配套的名师讲堂和题库。

《语言学教程》(第3、4版)(胡壮麟主编,北京大学出版社)一直被用作高等院校英语专业语言学教材,被绝大多数院校指定为英语专业考研必读书和学术研究参考书。作为该教材的学习辅导书,本书具有以下几个方面的特点:

1. 梳理章节脉络,浓缩内容精华。每章的复习笔记以该教材为主并结合其他教材对本章的重难点知识进行了整理,并参考了国内名校名师讲授该教材的课堂笔记,因此,本书的内容几乎浓缩了经典教材的知识精华。

2. 中英双语对照,突显难点要点。本书章节笔记采用了中英文对照的形式,强化对重要难点知识的理解和运用。

3. 精选考研真题,补充难点习题。本书精选名校近年考研真题及相关习题,并提供答案和详解。所选真题和习题基本体现了各个章节的考点和难点,但又不完全局限于教材内容,是对教材内容极好的补充。

与本书相配套,圣才考研网提供胡壮麟《语言学教程》【教材精讲+考研真题解析】视频课程、经典教材视频课程(图书)(详细介绍参见本书书前彩页)。

需要特别说明的是:我们深深感谢胡壮麟教授和北京大学出版社为我们提供了这样一本优秀的语言学教材。另外,在笔记部分,对于在《语言学教程》(第三版)提到而第四版删减的知识点我们也予以保留,并用“\*”标明,对于在第四版新增加的知识点用“▼”标明,以便于使用不同版本教材的读者使用。

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# 第1章 语言学导论

## 1.1 复习笔记

### 本章要点:

1. The definition and the design features of language  
语言的定义与特征
2. The origin and the function of language  
语言的起源和功能
3. Main branches of linguistics study  
语言学研究的范围和内容
4. Important distinctions in Linguistics  
语言学的一些重要区分

### 本章考点:

#### 1. 有关语言的常考考点

语言的定义;语言的基本特征(任意性、二重性、多产性、移位性、文化传递和互换性);语言的功能(提供信息、人际交往、施为、表达情感、寒暄、娱乐、元语言);语言的起源[神授说,人造说(“汪汪”,“噢噢”,“哟-嘿-吼”理论),进化说]等。

#### 2. 有关语言学的常考考点

- (1) 语言学的定义,现代语言学与传统语法学研究的三个显著区别。
- (2) 语言学研究的四个原则及其简要说明。语言学中几组重要区别,每组两个概念的含义、区分及其意义。
- (3) 普通语言学的主要分支学科及各自的研究范畴。
- (4) 宏观语言学及应用语言学的主要分支及各自的研究范畴。

### 本章内容索引:

#### I. Definition of language

#### II. Design features of language

1. Arbitrariness
2. Duality
3. Creativity
4. Displacement
5. Cultural Transmission
6. Interchangeability

#### III. Origin of language

1. The Biblical account
2. The bow-wow theory
3. The pooh-pooh theory

4. The yo-he-ho theory

5. The evolution theory

#### IV. Functions of language

1. Informative function

2. Interpersonal function

3. Performative function

4. Emotive function

5. Phatic function

6. Recreational function

7. Metalingual function

#### V. Definition of linguistics

#### VI. Branches of linguistics

1. Microlinguistics

2. Macrolinguistics

#### VII. Important concepts and their distinctions

1. Descriptive vs. Prescriptive

2. Synchronic vs. Diachronic

3. Langue vs. Parole

4. Competence vs. Performance

5. Etic vs. Emic

6. Traditional Grammar vs. Modern Grammar

7. Linguistic Potential vs. Actual Linguistic Behavior

#### I. The definition of language

Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. This definition has revealed five essential factors of language: systematic, arbitrary, vocal, symbolic and most importantly human-specific.

#### II. The design features of language

【考点：名词解释 & 填空】

Design features refer to the defining properties of human languages that distinguish it from any animal system of communication.

#### 1. Arbitrariness

It is the core feature of language, which refers to the fact that there is no logical or intrinsic connection between a particular sound and the meaning it is associated with. It is not entirely arbitrary at all levels. Some words, such as the ones created in the imitation of sounds by sounds are motivated in a certain degree.

#### I. 语言的定义

语言是人类以口头交流的任意的符号系统。该定义揭示了语言的五个要素：系统，任意，口头，符号，人类。

#### II. 语言的定义特征

语言的定义特征是人类语言区别于其他动物交流系统的特点。

#### 1. 任意性

任意性是语言的核心特征，是指符号的形式或者声音与意义之间没有逻辑或内在联系。虽然语言从本质上是任意的，但也不是完全任意的。一些词语，例如一些拟声词的发音与其意义还是有一定联系的。



## 2. Duality

Duality refers to the property of having two levels of structures, such that units of the primary level are composed of elements of the secondary level and each of two levels has its own principles of organization. The property of duality only exists in such a system, namely, with both elements (e. g. sounds, letters) and units (e. g. words).

## 3. Creativity

Creativity means language is resourceful because of its duality and its recursiveness, which enables human beings to produce and understand an infinitely large number of sentences in our native language, including the sentences which were never heard before.

## 4. Displacement

Displacement means that human languages enable their users to symbolize objects, events and concepts which are not present (in time and space) at the moment of communication. Displacement benefits human beings by giving them the power to handle generalizations and abstractions.

## 5. Cultural Transmission

Language is culturally transmitted. It cannot be transmitted through heredity.

## 6. Interchangeability

Interchangeability refers to the fact that man can both produce and receive messages, and his roles as a speaker and a hearer can be exchanged at ease.

## III. Origin of language

### 1. The Biblical account

Language was God's gift to human beings.

### 2. The bow-wow theory

Language was an imitation of natural sounds, such as the cries of animals, like quack, cuckoo.

### 3. The pooh-pooh theory

Language arose from instinctive emotional cries, expression of pain or joy.

### 4. The yo-he-ho theory

Language arose from the noises made by a group of people engaged in joint labour or effort-lifting a huge hunted game, moving a rock, etc.

## 2. 二重性

二重性是指拥有两层结构的这种属性, 底层结构是上层结构的组成成分, 每层都有自身的组合规则。二重性只存在于这样的系统之中, 既有元素又有它们组合成的单位。

## 3. 创造性

创造性指语言的能产性, 它能够使人造出和理解无穷的长句, 其中很多句子是以前从未听过的。

## 4. 移位性

移位性是指人类语言可以让使用者在交际时用语言符号代表时间上和空间上不可及的物体、事件和观点。移位性赋予人们的概括和想象力使人类受益无穷。

## 5. 文化传递性

语言不是靠遗传, 而是通过文化传递的。

## 6. 互换性

互换性是指人可以是信息的发出者, 也可以是信息的接受者, 即人作为说话者和听话者的角色是可以随意更换的。

## III. 语言的起源

### 1. 圣经的记载

语言是上帝的恩赐。

### 2. “汪汪”理论

语言是模仿自然的声音, 例如动物的叫声, 如(鸭子)的刮刮声, 嘎嘎声, 布谷鸟的叫声。

### 3. “噢噢”理论

语言来源于人本能的情感声音, 表达疼痛或喜悦。

### 4. “哟-嘿-吼”理论

语言起源于原始人共同劳动时发出的有节奏的哼哟声。

## 5. The evolution theory

Language originated in the process of labour and answered the call of social need.

## IV. Functions of language

【考点：判断所描述的是语言的何种功能 & 名词解释】

### 1. Informative function

Language is used to tell something, to give information, or to reason things out. The informative function is regarded as the most important function. Declarative sentences serve this function.

### 2. Interpersonal function

The interpersonal function is considered as the most important sociological use of language, by which people establish and maintain their status in a society.

### 3. Performative function

The performative function of language is primarily used to change the social status of persons, such as in marriage ceremonies, the sentencing of criminals, the blessing of children, the naming of a ship at a launching ceremony, and the cursing of enemies. The kind of language employed in performative verbal acts is usually quite formal and even ritualized.

### 4. Emotive function

The emotive function of language is one of the most powerful uses of language because it is so crucial in changing the emotional status of an audience for or against someone or something.

### 5. Phatic function

This function refers to expressions that help define and maintain interpersonal relations, such as slangs, jokes, jargons, ritualistic exchanges, switches to social and regional dialects.

### 6. Recreational function

The recreational function refers to the use of language for the sheer joy of it, such as a baby's babbling or a chanter's chanting.

### 7. Metalingual function

The metalingual function refers to the fact that our language can be used to talk about itself.

## 5. 进化理论

语言起源于劳动的过程，满足了社会的需求。

## IV. 语言的功能

### 1. 信息功能

语言用来陈述某件事情，提供信息或用作推理。信息功能是语言最重要的功能，一般出现在陈述句中。

### 2. 人际功能

人际功能是语言最重要的社会功能。人们由此建立和维持他们的身份和社会地位。

### 3. 施为功能

语言的施为功能主要是用来改变人的社会地位，例如在婚礼、判刑，为孩子祈福和在首航仪式上为船命名、诅咒敌人。在这些言语行为中，语言通常是非常正式的，甚至是仪式化的。

### 4. 感情功能

语言的感情功能是语言最有用的功能之一，因为它在改变听者赞成或反对某人、某物的态度上作用非常关键。

### 5. 寒暄功能

寒暄功能是指那些有助于确立和维持人际关系的表达，例如俚语、玩笑、行话、礼节性的问候、社会方言或地域方言的转用等。

### 6. 娱乐功能

语言的娱乐功能是指纯粹为了娱乐而使用语言，例如婴儿的呀呀学语，歌者的吟唱。

### 7. 元语言功能

语言的元语言功能是指语言可以用来讨论语言本身。

## V. Definition of linguistics

Linguistics is usually defined as the science of language or, the scientific study of language. It not only focus on a particular language, but is based on the systematic investigation of linguistic data, conducted with reference to some general theory of language structure. The four principles which make linguistics a science are exhaustiveness, consistency, economy and objectivity.

## VI. Branches of linguistics

### 1. Microlinguistics—Intra-disciplinary divisions

Phonetics

Phonology

Morphology

Syntax

Semantics

Pragmatics

### 2. Macrolinguistics—Interdisciplinary divisions

Psycholinguistics

Sociolinguistics

Applied linguistics

Computational linguistics

Neurolinguistics

## VII. Important concepts and their distinctions

### 1. Descriptive vs. Prescriptive

To say that linguistics is a descriptive science means that linguists tried to discover and record the rules to which the members of a language-community actually conform and does not seek to impose upon them other rules, or norms, of correctness. Prescriptive linguistics aims to lay down rules for the correct use of language and settle the disputes over usage once and for all. The distinction lies in describing how things are and prescribing how things ought to be.

### 2. Synchronic vs. Diachronic

Language can be studied at a given point in time or over time. When we study language at a particular time, it is called synchronic linguistics. When we study language developments through time, it is called diachronic or historical linguistics. Synchronic linguistics focuses on the state of language at any points in history while diachronic linguistics focuses on the differences in two or more than two states of language over decades or centuries.

## V. 语言学的定义

语言学通常被定义为研究科学的语言, 或对语言的科学研究。它不仅关注某种特定的语言, 而是基于一些语言结构的综合理论, 对语料进行的系统研究。语言学研究的科学性可以归纳为: 穷尽性、一致性、简洁性以及客观性。

## VI. 语言学的分支

### 1. 微观语言学

语音学

音系学

形态学

句法学

语义学

语用学

### 2. 宏观语言学

心理语言学

社会语言学

应用语言学

计算语言学

神经语言学

## VII. 重要概念及其区分

### 1. 描写式与规定式

把语言说成描述性的科学是说语言学家试图发现和记录同一语言共同体的成员所遵循的规则, 并不是强加给它们其他规则或正确的标准。规定式的语言学目的在于为正确使用语言定下各种规则, 一劳永逸地解决用法上的争议。它们最主要的区别就在于前者描述事情怎样而后者规定事情应该如何。

### 2. 共时与历时

语言研究可以是在一个给定的时间也可以是一段时期。当我们集中在某一点时间来研究语言时就叫做共时语言学。当我们研究随着时间发展的语言时就叫做历时语言学。共时语言学集中研究历史任何时期点的语言现状, 而历时语言学集中研究几十年或几百年的时期内两个或比两个更多的语言状况的差异。

### 3. Langue vs. Parole

Saussure distinguished the linguistic competence of the speaker and the actual phenomena or data of linguistics (utterances) as langue and parole. Langue refers to the abstract linguistic system shared by all the members of a speech community. Parole refers to particular realizations of langue.

### 4. Competence vs. Performance

【考点：解释 Saussure 和 Chomsky 的两对概念的异同】

(1) Chomsky made the fundamental difference between competence and performance.

(2) A language user's underlying knowledge about the system of rules is called his linguistic competence.

(3) Performance refers to the actual use of language in concrete situations.

### 5. Etic vs. Emic

(1) Etic refers to the linguistic units containing "-etic", for example, phonemic, morphemic, which are used to describe linguistic facts in detail without distinctive features, and are first used to describe sounds.

(2) Emic refers to the linguistic units containing "-emic", for instance, phonemic, morphemic, which are used to describe abstract linguistic rules with distinctive features and are first used to describe phonemes.

### 6. Traditional Grammar vs. Modern Grammar

Traditional grammar can be considered as prescriptive; it is based on "high" (religious, literary) written language. It sets models for language users to follow. But Modern linguistics is descriptive; its investigations are based on authentic and mainly spoken language data. It is supposed to be scientific and objective and the task of linguists is supposed to describe the language people actually use, whether it is "correct" or not.

### 7. Linguistic Potential vs. Actual Linguistic Behavior

Halliday thinks that with language, there is a wide range of things that a speaker can do in the culture he is in. The set of possibility for "doing" is termed linguistic potential from a functional language's view. What a speaker actually says on a particular occasion to a particular individual is what he has selected from the many possible things he could have said. This actual selection of things from what one could have is termed actual linguistic behavior.

### 3. 语言与言语

索绪尔用语言和言语来区分说话者的语言能力和言语上(表达的)的实际表现或语料。语言是指一个语言群体的所有成员所共有的抽象的语言系统。言语是指语言的具体实现和运用。

### 4. 语言能力和语言应用

(1) 乔姆斯基提出了语言能力和语言应用的根本区别。

(2) 一名语言使用者对于语言规则系统的潜在认识称为他的语言能力。

(3) 语言运用指在具体场景中语言的实际运用。

### 5. 唯素的与唯位的

(1) 唯素的是指具有“素”的语言单位,如音素、词素,是对语言事实的细节描写,不具有区别性特征,最早用于音素描写。

(2) 唯位是指具有“位”的抽象语言单位,如音位、词位,用来描述抽象的语言规则,具有区别性特征,最早用于音位描写。

### 6. 传统语法与现代语法

传统语法是规定式的,是基于“高度的”书面语。它为语言使用者提供可供遵循的模式。但是现代语法是描写式的,对法的研究是基于真实的并且主要是口语化的语言数据。它应该比较科学和客观的,而语言学家的任务也应该是描述人们如何在实际中使用语言,无论其是否“正确”。

### 7. 语言潜势与实际语言行为

韩礼德认为,通过语言说话者可以在其生活的文化环境里做一系列广泛的事情。从语言功能的角度来看,“做”的可能性就被定义为语言潜势。说话者在某一特定的场所对某个特定的个体来说,是从其所能说得多种可能的内容中挑选而来的。这种说话者从言语中所做的实际选择就叫做实际言语行为。

## 1.2 考研真题与典型题详解

### I. Fill in the blanks.

1. Arbitrariness of language makes it potentially creative, and \_\_\_\_\_ of language makes learning a language laborious. For learners of a foreign language, it is this feature of language that is more worth noticing than its arbitrariness. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
2. In Saussure's view, the relationship between signifier (sound image) and signified (concept) is \_\_\_\_\_ (北二外 2005 研)
3. Human language is arbitrary. This refers to the fact that there is no logical or intrinsic connection between a particular sound and the \_\_\_\_\_ it is associated with. (人大 2007 研)
4. The features that define our human languages can be called \_\_\_\_\_ features. (北二外 2006 研)
5. Human languages enable their users to symbolize objects, events and concepts which are not present (in time and space) at the moment of communication. This quality is labeled as \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2007 研)
6. By \_\_\_\_\_ is meant the property of having two levels of structures, such that units of the primary level are composed of elements of the secondary level and each of the two levels has its own principles of organization. (北二外 2005 研)
7. Halliday proposes a theory of metafunctions of language, that is, language has \_\_\_\_\_, interpersonal and textual functions. (中山大学 2008 研)
8. Our language can be used to talk about itself. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ function of language. (中山大学 2005 研)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ function is realized by mood and modality. (中山大学 2006 研)
10. When language is used for establishing an atmosphere or maintaining social contact rather than exchanging information or ideas, its function is \_\_\_\_\_ function. (北二外 2000 研)
11. Some sentences do not describe things. They cannot be said to be true or false. The utterance of these sentences is or is a part of the doing of an action. They are called \_\_\_\_\_. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
12. When language is used for establishing an atmosphere or maintaining social contact rather than exchanging information or ideas, its function is \_\_\_\_\_ function. (北二外 2005 研)
13. Linguistics is usually defined as the \_\_\_\_\_ study of language. (北二外 2003 研)
14. The branch of linguistics which studies the sound patterns of a language is called \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2003 研)
15. The branch of grammar which studies the internal structure of words is called \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2004 研)
16. \_\_\_\_\_ mainly studies the characteristics of speech sounds and provides methods for their description, classification and transcription. (北二外 2005 研)
17. Semantics and \_\_\_\_\_ investigate different aspects of linguistic meaning. (北二外 2007 研)
18. In linguistics, \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the study of the rules governing the way words are com-

bined to form sentences in a language, or simply, the study of the formation as sentence. (中山大学 2008 研)

19. \_\_\_\_\_ can be defined as the study of language in use. Sociolinguistics, on the other hand, attempts to show the relationship between language and society.
20. The branch of grammar which studies the internal structure of sentence is called \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2008 研)
21. Psycholinguistics is concerned primarily with investigating the psychological \_\_\_\_\_ of linguistic structures. (中山大学 2006 研)
22. Saussure distinguished the linguistic competence of the speaker and the actual phenomena or data of linguistics (utterances) as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The former refers to the abstract linguistic system shared by all the members of a speech community, and the latter is the concrete manifestation of language either through speech or through writing. (人大 2006 研)
23. \_\_\_\_\_ grammars attempt to tell what is in the language, while \_\_\_\_\_ grammars tell people what should be in the language. Most contemporary linguists believe that whatever occurs naturally in the language should be described. (人大 2006 研)
24. One of the important distinctions in linguistics is \_\_\_\_\_ and performance. (人大 2006 研)
25. An approach in linguistic study which attempts to lay down rules of correctness as to how language should be used is \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2008 研)
26. Chomsky initiated the distinction between \_\_\_\_\_ and performances. (北二外 2007 研)
27. When language is used for establishing an atmosphere or maintaining social contact rather than exchanging information or ideas, its function is \_\_\_\_\_ function. (北二外 2010 研)
28. The idea of \_\_\_\_\_ was first developed by Roman Jakobson (1896 – 1982) in the 1940s as a means of working out a set of phonological contrasts or oppositions to capture particular aspects of language sounds. (中山大学 2011 年研)
29. Theory that primitive man made involuntary vocal noises while performing heavy work has been called the \_\_\_\_\_ theory.
30. Modern linguistic is \_\_\_\_\_ in the sense that the linguist tries to discover what language is rather than lay down some rules for people to observe.
31. The description of a language as it changes through time is a \_\_\_\_\_ study.
32. Linguistic potential is similar to Saussure's langue and Chomsky's \_\_\_\_\_.
33. One of the important distinctions in linguistics is \_\_\_\_\_ and parole. The former is the French word for "language", which is the abstract knowledge necessary for speaking, listening, writing and reading. The latter is concerned about the actual use of language by people in speech or writing. Parole is more variable and may change according to contextual factors.

## II. Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is NOT a frequently discussed design feature? (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
  - A. Arbitrariness
  - B. Convention
  - C. Duality



2. Which of the following words is entirely arbitrary? (西安交通大学 2008 研)
  - A. tree
  - B. crash
  - C. typewriter
  - D. bang
3. By \_\_\_\_\_ we mean language is resourceful because of its duality and recursiveness. (西安外国语学院 2006 研)
  - A. arbitrariness
  - B. duality
  - C. creativity
  - D. displacement
4. When language is used to get information from others, it serves an \_\_\_\_\_ function. (北二外 2003 研)
  - A. informative
  - B. directive
  - C. interrogative
5. The functions of language do NOT include \_\_\_\_\_. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
  - A. informative function
  - B. interpersonal function
  - C. metacognitive function
6. The study of physical properties of the sounds produced in speech is closely connected with \_\_\_\_\_. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
  - A. articulatory phonetics
  - B. acoustic phonetics
  - C. auditory phonetics
7. Which of the following is a main branch of linguistics? (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
  - A. Macrolinguistics
  - B. Psycholinguistics
  - C. Sociolinguistics
8. Saussure is closely connected with \_\_\_\_\_. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
  - A. Langue
  - B. Competence
  - C. Etic
9. Saussure took a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ view of language, while Chomsky looks at language from a \_\_\_\_\_ point of view. (西安交通大学 2008 研)
  - A. sociological... psychological
  - B. psychological... sociological
  - C. applied... pragmatic
  - D. semantic... linguistic
10. According to F. de Saussure, \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the abstract linguistic system shared by all the members of a speech community. (西安交通大学 2008 研)
  - A. parole
  - B. performance
  - C. langue
  - D. Language
11. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the system of a language, i. e. the arrangement of sounds and words which speakers of a language have a shared knowledge of. (西安外国语学院 2006 研)
  - A. Langue
  - B. Competence
  - C. Communicative competence
  - D. Linguistic potential
12. The actual production and comprehension of the speech by speakers of a language is called \_\_\_\_\_. (北二外 2010 研)
  - A. grammar rules
  - B. competence
  - C. performance
  - D. language device
13. The study of language at one point in time is a \_\_\_\_\_ study. (北二外 2010 研)
  - A. historical
  - B. synchronic
  - C. descriptive
  - D. diachronic
14. Which of the following statements is true of Jakobson's framework of language functions?
  - A. The referential function is to indulge in language for its own sake.

- B. The emotive function is to convey message and information.  
 C. The conative function is to clear up intentions, words and meanings.  
 D. The phatic function is to establish communion with others.
15. "An refer to Confucius even though he was dead 2,000 years ago." This shows that language has the design feature of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. arbitrariness      B. creativity      C. duality      D. displacement
16. The function of the sentence "Water boils at 100 degree Centigrade" is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. interrogative      B. directive      C. informative      D. performative

### III. True or False

1. It is conclusive that Chinese is regarded as the primeval language. (清华 2000 研)
2. Wherever humans exist, language exists. (对外经贸 2006 研)
3. According to Saussure, the relation between the signified and the signifier is arbitrary. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
4. The features that define our human languages can be called DESIGN FEATURES. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
5. Onomatopoeic words can show the arbitrary nature of language. (清华 2000 研)
6. The bow-wow theory is a theory on the origin of language. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
7. When language is used to get information from others, it serves an informative function. (清华 2001 研)
8. Historical linguistics equals to the study of synchronic study.
9. Duality is one of the characteristics of human language. It refers to the fact that language has two levels of structures: the system of sounds and the system of meanings.
10. Prescriptive linguistics is more popular than descriptive linguistics, because it can tell us how to speak correct language.

### IV. Explain the following terms.

1. Displacement (南开大学 2010 研; 清华 2001 研)
2. Duality (北二外 2010 研; 南开大学 2010 研; 西安交通大学 2008 研)
3. Arbitrariness (四川大学 2006 研)
4. Phatic function (communion) (武汉大学 2005 研)

### V. Short answer questions

1. What is the directive function? (西安交大 2008 研)
2. How well, in your opinion, does the word "communication" represent the function of human language? (北二外 2008 研)
3. Briefly explain what phonetics and phonology are concerned with and what kind of relationships hold between the two. (北外 2002 研)
4. What makes language unique to human beings? (北航 2010 研)
5. What are the major differences between phonology and phonetics? (西安交通大学 2008 研)
6. Why do people take duality as one of the important design features of human language? Can you tell us what language will be if it has no such design feature? (南开大学 2004 研)
7. Why do we say linguistics is a science? (北外 2011 研)



8. One of the design features of human language is creativity. What is it? And what makes it possible?
9. Explain the characteristic of arbitrariness. What are the relationships between arbitrariness & onomatopoeic words and arbitrariness convention?

#### VI. Essay questions

1. What are the seven functions of human language? (人大 2006 研)
2. Is it possible to separate semantics and pragmatics? Why or why not? What are the implications of your answer for second language teaching? (北外 2005 研)
3. Examine the following two statements about language, and discuss the similarities and differences between them. Do you agree with the two statements? Explain your answer.
  - (1) Sapir (1921: Language): "Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of voluntarily produced symbols." (p. 8).
  - (2) Bloch and Trager (1942: Outline of Linguistic Analysis): "A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group co-operates." (p. 5). (北外 2005 研)
4. Shakespeare has Juliet say:
 

What's in a name? That which we call a rose.  
By any other name would smell as sweet.

What do the above lines say to you about the relationship between the form (sounds) and meaning (concept) of a word in spoken language? Explain with positive evidence as well as exceptions from the English language. (北外 2004 研)
5. Make comments upon the relationship between arbitrariness, convention, and motivation. (四川大学 2006 研)
6. Illustrate the significance of studying speech Sounds in linguistics. (大连外国语学院 2008 研)
7. Saussure puts forward the concept of langue and parole, and Chomsky puts forward the concept of competence and performance. Please dwell upon the differences and similarities, if any, of the two pairs: langue and parole vs. competence and performance. (北京交通大学 2007 研)
8. What are the three metafunctions of Systemic Functional Grammar? Illustrate each of them with specific examples. (武汉大学 2011 年研)
9. How do you compare the traffic light system with a human linguistic system?

### 参考答案及解析

#### I. Fill in the blanks.

1. Conventionality  
(语言学习过程中学习者必须识记一些固定搭配或约定俗成的习语谚语等, 因此使得语言学习比较费力。)
2. Arbitrary  
(索绪尔认为符号的形式或声音与其意义之间没有逻辑联系, 所以两者之间的关系是任意的。)