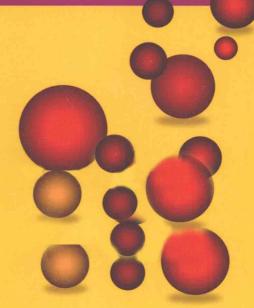
Highlights of General and Applied Linguistics: Questions and Answers

总主编 胡宗锋 姚超英

建新原规键连接基则

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高等院校英语专业考研专业课精要问答

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 $lue{}$ Questions and Answers $lue{}$



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在《原富》按语中,严复对 20 世纪逞强世界的国家进行了惊人的预言。他说:"二十稘以往,将地大气厚者,为文明富庶之所钟焉。然则雄宇内者,非震旦,即美利坚也。"在《论今日教育应以物理科学为当务之急》一文中,严复对英文在 20 世纪的作用进行了预言:"且西文既通,无异入新世界,前此教育虽有缺憾,皆可得此为之补苴。大抵二十世纪之中国人,不如是者,不得谓之成学。"

严复在几十年前的这些话,早在 20 世纪已得到了验证。在 21 世纪的今天,国人越来越升温的"英语热"不但显示在国内大学开设的各种英语专业中,也体现在各行各业对外语的看重和要求中。随着人们外语水平的渐渐提高和全球化时代的到来,各行各业对外语(特别是对英语)的要求也就越来越高。英语语言文学专业近年来报考研究生的人也在逐年增多。为了帮助在校的英语语言文学专业本科生对自己专业的基本课程有一个系统的了解,为了帮助参加英语语言文学专业研究生考试的各类人才在复习时有一套简洁明了的参考书,我们特编写了这套丛书。丛书中的每一本都是以我国这些年来高等院校使用较多的教材(也是许多高校研究生考试的指定参考书)为基础,结合编者在高校从事英语语言和文学教学的实践经验,并参考了大量国内外与该课程相关的资料编写而成。

本丛书虽说是一套复习与备考丛书,但对于那些对英美文学、文化、语言和 主要英语国家的国情以及相关知识感兴趣的读者来说,也不失为一套简明扼要的 入门丛书。



英语语言学始终是英语专业本科阶段很具挑战的一门课。其原因主要有三个:内容抽象难懂,教学课时不够,师资缺乏。这种情况直接反映在考研上,即报考语言学方向的考生大大少于报考翻译或文学方向的考生。以上是本书编者在多年教学中的真实感受,也正是此因,我们选编了这本较实用的考研辅导与参考书。

本书共 11 章,各章包括三个方面的内容,即核心提示、概念定义和理解简答。此外另附 10 套热身题。各章内的核心提示包含了编者多年来使用胡壮麟先生及戴炜栋先生主编的教材过程之中所积累的知识与总结,也包括不少编者自己独特的理解和突破,希望能够开阔读者的思路,增进读者对具体知识点的理解。概念定义收入了较重要的相关术语,部分作为答题的依据。理解简答采用一问一答、英汉大致对照的方式,这样既可以照顾实际测试用英语答卷的要求,又可以帮助学员理解消化语言学知识。热身题共计 10 套语言学及应用语言学测试题,旨在检验应试者在复习教材或阅读"精要问答"之后的效果,也是一种强化。

本书编者在编写中参考了大量国内外语言学专著和相关教材辅导书刊,特别是胡壮麟先生主编的《语言学教程练习册》非常好,明晰易懂,本书特别引用了其中一些内容与解答,在此对这些著作文献的编著者表示诚挚的感谢!

编写好的考试辅导材料不是一件容易事。由于编者水平有限,认识与经验欠缺,谬误之处在所难免,敬请广大专家、学者及参读本书的考生批评指正。

编者 2010年12月

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Chapter One Introduction to Linguisties

第一章 语言学导论

一、Core Understanding 核心提示

空气、阳光、水与语言,使人类得以发达至今,并且无疑还将继续发达下去。语言的力量与作用是什么?倘若人类突然间失去语言能力,迄今为止的所有文化以及积淀都将变得毫无意义,而且它们很快就会消融于自然,这时的人类将与狗、狼无别。换言之,假如人类的文化、文明今天从零开始,只要有语言,什么都将会有。

虽然人类对自己独享的语言这个大自然赐予的礼物,还没有透彻认识,但就一些基本性问题、重大的本质性问题还是达成了一致的看法,长期的研究和探索还是达成了重大一致。

人类虽具有语言能力,但并不具有特定的交流信息的形式,那是后天选择的结果,所以才有现在成千上万种语言及方言,它们组合排列不同,形态、语音和符号的质与量择取也不同。动物没有先天的语言能力,但它们先天具有特定的交流信息的方式。

人类共有的语言能力体现在四个方面:用任意符号表达客观世界;通过组合有限符号,达到表达无限世界存在的目的;人类天生具有的语言向性使其能够用具体符号指向并理解抽象意义;具体符号系统可以被学习而传递下去。

说到底,语言学是关于人与符号运用的研究。根据关注点差异,语言学可分别理解为微观和宏观:关注语言本身(语音、词汇、语法、语序等)的属于前者,而语言与其他学科交叉研究则属于后者。

二、Concepts and Definitions 概念定义

langue vs. parole: the language system shared by a "speech community"; and the concrete utterances of a speaker.

语言与言语:一个"言语社团"共有的语言系统;说话人实际说的话语。

design features: the distinctive features of human language that essentially make human language distinguishable from languages of animals.

语言特征: 从本质上将人类语言与动物的语言区分开的人类语言的区别性特点。

arbitrariness: the absence of any physical correspondence between linguistic signals and the entities to which they refer.

任意性:语言符号和这些符号所指的实体间不存在任何物质的联系。

duality: the structural organization of language into two abstract levels: meaningful units (e.g. words) and meaningless segments (e.g. sounds, letters).

二层性:语言的结构组织可分为两个抽象的层面:有意义的单元(如词语)和无意义的片段(如语音、字母)。

displacement: the ability of language to refer to contexts removed from the speaker's immediate situation.

移位性:语音能够指称说话人当时情境以外的语境。

function: the role language plays in communication (e.g. to express ideas, attitudes) or in particular social situations (e.g. religious, legal).

功能:语言在交际(表达观点、态度等)或特定社会情境(如宗教、法律场合)中所起的作用。

synchronic & diachronic: an approach that studies language at a theoretical "point" in time; and the study of development of language or languages over time.

共时与历时: 在某一理论上的时间点研究语言的方法; 研究语言随时间发展 变化的方法。

prescriptive & descriptive: to make authoritarian statement about the correctness of a particular use of language; and to make an objective and systematic account of the patterns and use of a language or variety.

规定式与描写式:对于语言使用的态度,分为两种,一种是对语言正确用法进行权威性规定;另一种是客观系统地记录一种语言或变体的模式和用法。

phatic communion: a talk used to establish atmosphere or maintain social contacts.

寒暄:用来创造气氛或维持社会联系的谈话。

metalanguage: a language used for talking about language.

元语言:用来谈论语言的语言。

competence vs. performance: unconscious knowledge of the system of grammatical rules in a language; and the language actually used by people in speaking or writing.

语言能力与语言运用:对于一门语言的语法规则系统的无意识获得的知识;人们说话或写作时实际使用的语言。

三、Brief Answers Based on Correct Understanding 理解简答

1. What is language?

什么是语言?

Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. Broadly agreed upon among linguists, this definition covers four important aspects: system, arbitrary, symbol and vocal. It is a system, since linguistic elements are arranged systematically, rather than chaotically. Its being a system ensures a common ground on which the users can grasp it and understand it. Arbitrary, in the sense that there is usually without intrinsic connection between a word (dog, for instance) and the thing referred to by the word "dog". A quotation from Shakespeare would make a good example: "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." That is why there are numerous languages in the world, with so many different sounds and writings, all of which carry more or less the same meanings. It is symbolic, because words (writings/pictogram) are associated with objects, concepts, actions, by nothing more than convention. In other words, language users employ the sounds or vocal forms to symbolize what they wish to convey. It is vocal, because sound or speech is the primary medium for all human languages. Writing systems developed much later than the spoken forms. This recognition can be proved by the fact that every normal human can talk in a certain language but not necessarily is able to write.

语言是人类用来交际的任意性的语音符号的体系。这是语言学家们普遍认同的定义。它包含四个重要概念:系统性、任意性、符号性以及语音性。语言是一个体系,因为语言成分是有条理地而不是凌乱地拼凑在一起的。因为语言有体系,就保证了一种使得使用者掌握和理解它的共同基础。说语言是任意性的,意思是,某个词(如"狗")与它所指的物体之间通常没有内在的联系。援引莎氏的一句名言就很能说明这个问题:"一朵玫瑰不管它叫什么名字,闻起来都是一样香。"所以,世界上有如此众多的语言,有这么多不同的语音和文字,其含义都多少相同。说语言有符号性,是因为词语(文字/图表)



跟客观世界的物体、想法、行动等的联系是约定俗成的。换言之,人们用一定的声音或语音形式去象征地表达和交流事物。语言是有声的,是因为声音或语音对于全人类的语言都是第一媒介,文字系统则比口头形式的发展晚得多。这种观点可从下列事实得到证明: 所有正常人都能讲一种语言,但并不一定能写它。

2. What functions does language have?

语言有哪些功能?

According to *Linguistics: A Course Book* by Hu Zhuanglin, language has at least seven functions: phatic (language used to create a certain atmosphere or keep social contacts); directive (language used to make the hearer do something); informative (language used to tell someone something); interrogative (language used to get message); expressive (language used to show the feeling and attitudes of the speaker); evocative (language used to create certain feeling in the hearer); and performative (which means people speak to do things or to perform actions).

根据胡壮麟的《语言学教程》,语言至少有七种功能:酬应功能(指运用语言来产生一定的交际氛围或保持友好交际的状态);指令功能(指语言可用来让听者做事);信息功能(指语言用来提供信息);疑问功能(指语言用来获取信息);表情功能(指语言用来揭示言者的感情或态度);感染功能(指语言用来引起听者的情绪/反应)和行事功能(指人们说话是在"做事"或采取实际行动这种现象)。

3. What are features of human language specified by C. Hockett? 霍基特阐明了人类语言的哪些特征?

American linguist Charles Hockett proposed a defining framework in order to distinguish human language from any animal system of communication and help further understand the nature of language. He specified thirteen design features, five of which are mostly discussed.

Arbitrariness—a sign of sophistication only humans are capable of. Animals cannot establish artificial /learned means to express themselves.

Creativity—animals are quite limited in the messages they are able to send. They invariably use the same innate manner (noise/body movement) as fixed communication. There are no combinations or changes.

Duality—a feature totally lacking in any animal communication. Animals

communicate only in small limited number of sounds or physical movement.

Displacement—No animal can "talk" about things removed from the immediate situation. A dog can never purposefully phonetically /vocally tell its owner what happened three days before.

Cultural transmission—Details of human language system are taught and learned while animals are born with the capacity to send out certain signals as a means of limited communication. A bee, for example, is born to be able to tell where it found flowers by certain dancing.

任意性——只有人类才具有的复杂特性。动物绝无能力建立一套后天的/学习获得的交流方式。

创造性——动物所能传达的信息极其有限。它们总是以先天的固定方式(声音/肢体动作)交流,没有组合,也没有变化。

二层性——动物交际完全不具有这一特征。动物只能用有限的声音或动作来 表达。

移位性——动物都不能"谈论"不在现时现场的事情。一只狗不能有目的地以语音/口头的方式告诉其主人三天前它发生的事。

文化传递性——人类语言体系的具体内容是通过教与学而获得的,而动物则生来就能发出某些信号,以进行有限的交流。比如,蜜蜂生来就有能力通过某种舞姿告诉伙伴花在何处。

4. What is linguistics?

什么是语言学?

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It studies not just one language of any one community (tribe or society), but the language of all human beings. A linguist, though not having to know and use a large number of languages, ought to have a wide experience of different types of language. His task is not to learn to use any one particular language, but to investigate how each language is constructed. He is also concerned with how a language varies from dialect to dialect, from class to class, how it changes from century to century, how children acquire their mother tongue, and perhaps how a person learns or should learn a foreign language. In short, linguistics studies the general principles whereupon all human languages are constructed and operate as systems of communication in their societies or communities.

语言学是对语言进行的科学性研究。语言学不仅研究某一社会(部落或社团)的某种语言,而且研究人类语言这个整体。尽管一个语言学家不必懂得且会使用大量的语言,但他必须对各种各样的语言有所了解。语言学家的任务不是学习怎样使用某一特定语言,而是考察和研究每一种语言的结构如何。他也会考察和研究语言的方言差异如何,阶级差异如何,各阶段变化如何,儿童是如何习得母语的,以及个人如何或应怎样学习外语等问题。总而言之,语言学研究所有作为社会或社团交流系统的人类语言构造和操作的总原则及一般规律。

5. What are the major branches of linguistics? What does each of them study? 语言学的主要分支学科有哪些? 其研究内容是什么?

The study of language as a whole is often called general linguistics. However, a linguist sometimes is able to tackle only one or two aspects of language at a time, thus the arise of various branches:

Phonetics: the study of the phonic medium of language. It is concerned with how speech sounds are produced and classified in all languages of the world.

Phonology: the study of sound system—the whole of distinctive sounds that occur in a language and the patterns into which they fall. How sounds form systems and function to convey meaning.

Morphology: How morphemes are combined to form words.

Syntax: How morphemes and words are combined to form sentences.

Semantics: The study of meaning (in abstraction).

Pragmatics: The study of meaning in the context of use.

Sociolinguistics: The study of language with reference to society.

Psycholinguistics: The study of language with reference to the working of the mind.

Applied Linguistics: The application of linguistic principles and theories to language teaching and learning.

语言学的整体研究统称为普通语言学,包括基本概念、基本理论、基本描述和基本分法等。由于语言的复杂性,一个语言学家通常不能一下子讨论或解决许多问题,他常常把研究重点放在语言的某一两个方面。因此,语言学逐步产生众多分支,并且还在继续分支下去。所以,下面所列并未囊括其全部。语音学:研究语音是如何发出并如何分类。

音系学: 研究语音是如何形成体系并传达意义的。

形态学: 研究词素是如何组合以构成单词的。

句法学: 研究词素与词是如何组合以构成句子的。

语义学:(抽象地讲)研究语言的意义。

语用学:研究在使用语境中的意义。

社会语言学: 研究语言与社会的关系。

心理语言学: 研究语言与人的心理活动的关系。

应用语言学: 研究语言学理论与方法在语言教学与学习中的应用。

6. Why is linguistics a scientific study of language?

为什么说语言学是一门科学?

Linguistics investigates not any particular language, but languages in general. linguistic study is scientific because it is based on the systematic investigation of authentic language data. No serious linguistic conclusion is reached until after the linguist has done the following three things: observing the way language is actually used, formulating some hypotheses, and testing these hypotheses against linguistic facts to prove their validity. During the whole process of his research, a linguist usually follows four principles: exclusiveness, consistency, economy and objectivity.

语言学研究的不是某种特殊的语言,而是所有的语言。其研究的科学性表现在它是建立在对可靠的语言信息进行系统研究的基础上。语言学家在得出任何严肃的结论之前都要先做以下三件事情:观察语言实际上被使用的方式;形成一些假设;用语言现象证实这些假设的可靠性。在整个研究过程中,语言学家通常遵循四条原则:穷尽性、一致性、经济性和客观性。

7. Of the two major media of communication, writing and speech, which one is primary?

在两种主要交际媒介中,即口头语和书面语,哪一种是第一位的?

It is generally held in linguistics that speech is the primary medium, writing the secondary. The former has a history of at least 100,000 years whereas the latter only about 6,000 years. Besides, speech plays a greater role in daily communication. A larger amount of communication is carried out in speech than in writing and speech is the way in which people acquire their native language. Children, for instance, learn to speak before they learn to write.

语言学家们普遍认同,口头语在人类交流媒介中居第一位,书面语居第二。前者有至少10万年的历史,而后者仅有6000年左右的历史。在日常语言交

际中口头语起着更大的作用;口头语比书面语传达的交流信息量大;人类是以口头语方式习得本族语的。例如,儿童就是先学会说再学会写的。

8. What is the difference between langue and parole? 语言和言语之间的区别是什么?

First proposed by Saussure, a Swiss linguist, "langue" refers to the abstract linguistic system shared by all the members of a speech community and "parole" refers to the actual or actualized personal language. Langue is relatively stable and systematic, parole is subject to personal and situational constraints; langue is not spoken by an individual, parole is always a naturally occurring event. What a linguist should do, according to Saussure, is to draw rules from a mass of confused facts.

语言和言语这一对概念首先是由瑞士语言学家索绪尔提出来的。"语言"是指一个言语社团的所有成员共同使用的抽象语言系统,而"言语"指的是对于这些抽象语言系统的个人的实际运用。语言是相对稳定和系统化的,不是由个人决定的;言语则是具体的,因人而异,随境变化,总是不断地自然发生着。因此,索绪尔认为,语言学家应从一堆纷乱的语言现象中寻找出规则。

9. What is the distinction between competence and performance? 语言能力和语言运用有什么差异?

Chomsky proposed this concept. "Competence" refers to the ideal user's knowledge of rules of his language, that is, of its sound structure, its words and its grammatical rules. A transformational-generative grammar is a model of language competence. "Performance" refers to the actualization of the ideal language user's knowledge of the rules of his language in utterances. It means the actual saying of something, the act of speech itself.

Competence enables a speaker to produce and understand verbal expressions. A speaker's competence is stable while his performance is often influenced by psychological and social factors. A speaker's performance does not always equal his supposed competence.

美国语言学家乔姆斯基提出这一对概念。"语言能力"指理想的语言使用者的抽象语言知识,也就是他对该语言的语音结构、词素和语法规则的知识。例如,生成转换语法。"语言运用"指理想的语言使用者的语言知识在实际的语言交际中的运用。它指言语行为的本身。