

北京第二外国语学院资助出版教材

刘振聪 ○ 主编

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A COLLECTION OF EXERCISES
IN LINGUISTICS

语言学

习题汇编

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前 言

普通语言学以人类所有语言为对象，研究语言的一般性质和共同规律。普通语言学的理论原则对具体语言的研究具有指导作用。普通语言学理论的学习，重点包括掌握语言研究的三个层面，即音系、句法和语义，同时了解语言与文化、社会及语境等因素的关系。

本书内容包括：普通语言学及其研究领域；语言学流派及其理论方法，包括描写语言学、功能语言学、结构主义语言学、转换生成语法等；语言结构系统，包括音系学、词汇学、形态学、句法学、语义学和语用学；语言学与相关学科的关系，包括心理语言学、神经语言学、认知语言学、语言与文化、文体学、语料库语言学、社会语言学和应用语言学等。

本书亮点如下：

- 直接脱胎于课堂讲稿及训练，通俗易懂；
- 内容全面，涵盖语言学主要相关研究领域；
- 练习丰富，与考研、考博及资格考试紧密结合；
- 重点突出，每章都配有思维导图，方便掌握。

那么，如何使用本书呢？编者认为，读者应该在打好基础的前提下使用本书，因为本书的主要目的在于提供检测手段和参考资源。读者最好通读一本或多本语言学专著，对其中的基本概念、理论和方法有了深入的了解，并且能够融会贯通，而后使用本书进行检验和测试，匡谬正误，拾遗补缺。

答题建议如下：答案必须全面、详细，而且有条理；适当引用相关理论作答，答案包括一些对具体研究和发现的讨论，在适当的情况下，还涉及反驳的论点，证明你对相关文献有全面的了解，并且具备清晰有条理地阐释和应用相关知识的能力；答案分析合乎逻辑，语言清晰、流畅、有效；使用正确的句法和基本语法规则，包括拼写、标点符号、大写、缩写和引用等。

为了阐明做题方法，下文以简答题和阐述题为例说明。请看以下三例：

(1) **Spatial Relation:** A relationship, based on spatio-geometric properties, that holds between a figure and a reference object. For instance, in an utterance such as: *The bike is beside the building*, a spatial relation of proximity and adjacency is designated by the preposition *beside* and what we know about the nature of bikes, buildings and how they are normally located with respect to one another.

(2) **Closed Class Forms:** A set of linguistic forms to which it is typically more difficult for a language to add new members. Closed class forms are normally taken to include the “grammatical” or “function” words of a language. In English these include articles, prepositions, pronouns, inflectional morphemes and so forth. In terms of the meaning contributed by the closed class elements they provide schematic meaning. They contribute to the interpretation of an utterance in important but often subtle ways, providing a kind of “scaffolding” which supports and structures the content meaning provided by open class forms.

(3) **Cognitive Linguistics:** A school of linguistics and cognitive science which emerged from the early 1980s onwards. Places central importance on the role of meaning, conceptual processes and embodied experience in the study of language and the mind and the way in which they intersect. Cognitive linguistics is an enterprise or an approach to the study of language and the mind rather than a single articulated theoretical framework. It is informed by two overarching principles or commitments: the generalization commitment and the cognitive commitment. The two best developed sub-branches of cognitive linguistics are cognitive semantics and cognitive approaches to grammar. While cognitive linguistics began to emerge in the 1980s as a broadly grounded intellectual movement, it traces its roots to work that was taking place in the 1970s, particularly in the United States, which was reacting to formal linguistics. Early pioneers in the 1970s who were instrumental in formulating this new approach include *Gilles Fauconnier*, *Charles Fillmore*, *George Lakoff*, *Ronald Langacker* and *Leonard Talmy*.

例(1)是定义性解释,外加实例;适用于简答题,不适用于阐述题。例(2)是阐释性解释,有适度的扩展和个人理解;适用于简答题,不适用于阐述题。例(3)主要是阐释,有大量的扩展,包括定义、历史、特性、构成、代表人物等;篇幅较长,适用于阐述题。

本书适用于对语言学感兴趣的读者、英语专业本科生、考研准备者、语言学专业研究生和博士生以及担任语言学课程的教师。

本书由刘振聪担任主编，负责全书的统稿工作；贾彤和耿恺婕共同担任副主编。具体编写分工如下：刘振聪负责第1章至第5章、第12章至第16章、每章前面的思维导图；贾彤负责第6章至第8章；耿恺婕负责第9章至第11章。

囿于编者水平有限，疏漏和不足之处在所难免，还请各位专家、学者不吝赐教，也恳请各位同行和读者提出宝贵的意见和建议，以便我们及时修改和不断完善。

刘振聪

2018年5月

于京东翰墨斋

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Chapter 1
Language and Linguistics

语言和语言学



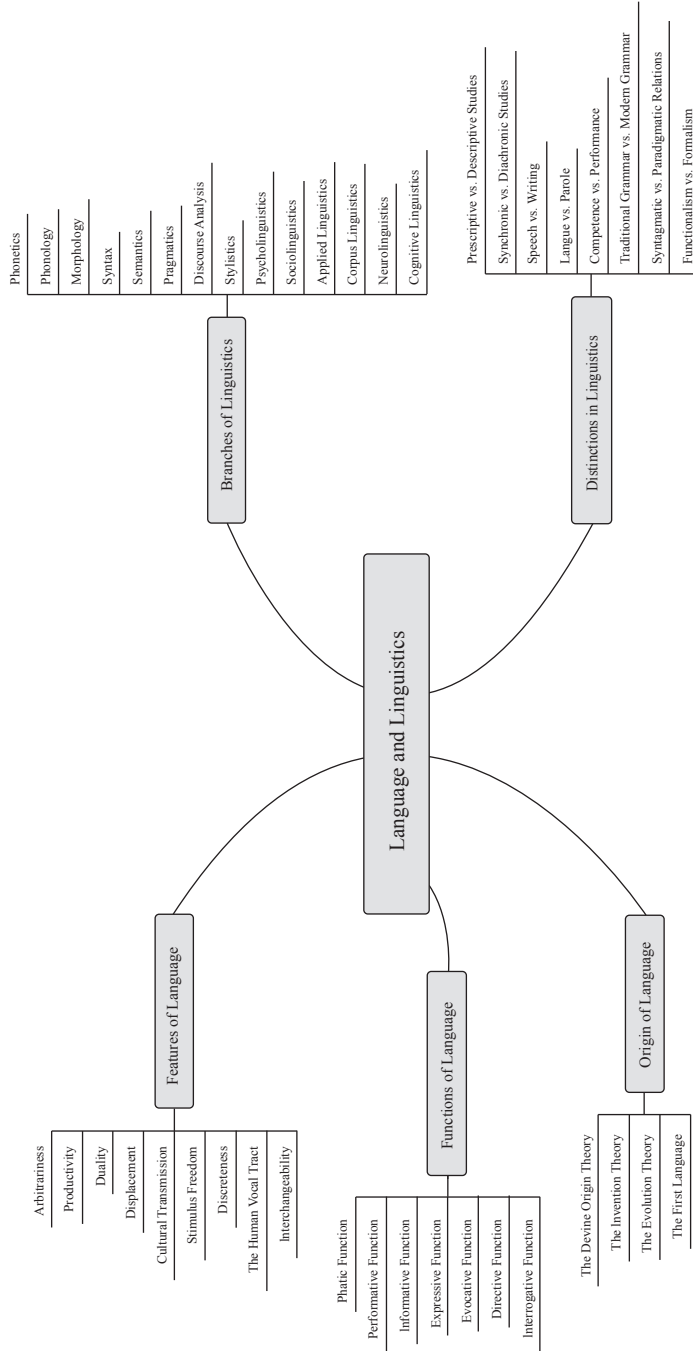


Figure 1 A Mindmap of Language and Linguistics

Key Points

Linguistics is generally defined as the scientific study of language. Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication.

I. Decide whether each of the following statements is true or false.

- () 1. Competence and performance refer respectively to a language user's underlying knowledge about the system of rules and the actual use of language in concrete situations.
- () 2. Pragmatics is different from semantics in that pragmatics studies meaning not in isolation, but in context.
- () 3. In the study of linguistics, hypotheses formed should be based on language facts and checked against the observed facts.
- () 4. General linguistics is generally the study of language as a whole.
- () 5. The study of meaning in language is known as semantics.
- () 6. Modern linguistics is different from traditional grammar.
- () 7. Most animal communication systems lack the primary level of articulation.
- () 8. The relation between form and meaning in human language is natural.
- () 9. The reason for French to use *cheval* and English to use *horse* to refer to the same animal is inexplicable.
- () 10. 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.
- () 11. Syntax is different from morphology in that the former not only studies the morphemes, but also the combination of morphemes into words and words into sentences.
- () 12. Both semantics and pragmatics study meanings.
- () 13. Morphology studies how words can be formed to produce meaningful sentences.

- () 14. The study of the ways in which morphemes can be combined to form words is called morphology.
- () 15. Modern linguistics is mostly prescriptive, but sometimes descriptive.
- () 16. General linguistics, which relates itself to the research of other areas, studies the basic concepts, theories, descriptions, models and methods applicable in any linguistic study.
- () 17. Modern linguistics regards the spoken language as primary, not the written language.
- () 18. Linguistics is generally defined as the scientific study of language.
- () 19. Langue is relatively stable and systematic while parole is subject to personal and situational constraints.
- () 20. A scientific study of language is based on what the linguist thinks.
- () 21. Social changes can often bring about language changes.
- () 22. A diachronic study of language is the description of language at some point in time.
- () 23. Prescriptive linguistics is more popular than descriptive linguistics, because it can tell us how to speak correct language.
- () 24. Descriptive linguistics is concerned with how languages work, not with how they can be improved.
- () 25. Halliday's linguistic potential is similar to the notions of parole and performance.
- () 26. The distinction between competence and performance was proposed by F. de Saussure.
- () 27. Linguistics studies particular language, not languages in general.
- () 28. Arbitrariness of language makes it potentially creative, and conventionality of language makes a language be passed from generation to generation. As a foreign language learner, the latter is more important for us.
- () 29. Phonetics is different from phonology in that the latter studies the combinations of the sounds to convey meaning in communication.

- () 30. Sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society.
- () 31. By diachronic study we mean to study the changes and development of language.
- () 32. When language is used to get information from others, it serves an informative function.
- () 33. Language change is universal, ongoing and arbitrary.
- () 34. Applied linguistics is the application of linguistic principles and theories to language teaching and learning.

II. Fill in each of the blanks with one word which begins with the letter given.

- Human capacity for language has a g_____ basis, but the details of language have to be taught and learned.
- By saying language is arbitrary, we mean that there is no logical connection between meaning and s_____.
- Langue refers to the a_____ linguistic system shared by all the members of a speech community while the parole is the concrete use of the conventions and application of the rules.
- Language is p_____ in that it makes possible the construction and interpretation of new signals by its users. In other words, they can produce and understand an infinitely large number of sentences which they have never heard before.
- Chomsky defines “competence” as the ideal user’s k_____ of the rules of his language.
- Language is a s_____ of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication.
- Findings in linguistic studies can often be applied to the settlement of some practical problems. The study of such applications is generally known as a _____ linguistics.
- The discipline that studies the rules governing the formation of words into permissible sentences in languages is called s_____.

- () 15. The onset of a syllable can be composed of _____.
A. one vowel B. two vowels C. three consonants D. four consonants
- () 16. In the following lines “And where are they?” and “where are thou?”, the last word “thou” should be stressed because it is in a comparative position with the word “they”. We name this kind of sentence stress as _____.
A. structural sentence stress B. contrastive sentence stress
C. grammatical sentence stress D. primary sentence stress
- () 17. The distinction between vowels and consonants lies in _____.
A. the place of articulation B. the obstruction of airstream
C. the position of the tongue D. the shape of the lips
- () 18. Saussure took a (n)_____ view of language, while Chomsky looks at language from a _____ point of view.
A. sociological, psychological B. Psychological, sociological
C. applied, pragmatic D. semantic and linguistic
- () 19. If a linguistic study describes and analyzes the language people actually use, it is said to be _____.
A. prescriptive B. analytic
C. descriptive D. linguistic
- () 20. _____ is the defining properties of units like noun (number, gender, etc.) and verb (tense, aspect, etc.).
A. Parts of speech B. Word classes linguistic system shared by all
C. Grammatical categories D. Functions of words
- () 21. The phonological features of the consonant [k] are _____.
A. voiced stop B. voiceless stop
C. voiced fricative D. voiceless fricative
- () 22. Which of the following sounds does not belong to the allomorphs of the English plural morpheme?
A. /s/ B. /iz/ C. /ai/ D. /is/
- () 23. Which of the following is not a distinctive feature in English?
A. voicing B. nasal C. approximation D. aspiration

- () 24. Which of the following sounds is a vowel glide?
A. /t/ B. /v/ C. /ei/ D. /ə/
- () 25. /e/ is different from /a/ in _____.
A. the shape of the lips
B. the height of the tongue
C. the part of the tongue that is raised
D. the position of the soft palate
- () 26. According to Chomsky, _____ is the ideal user's internalized knowledge of his language.
A. competence B. parole C. performance D. langue
- () 27. Which of the following features is NOT one of the design features of language?
A. Symbolic B. Duality C. Productiveness D. Arbitrariness
- () 28. Vibration of the vocal cords results in _____.
A. aspiration B. nasality C. obstruction D. voicing
- () 29. _____ studies all the speech sounds that human beings produce.
A. Phonetics B. Phonology C. Semantics D. Pragmatics
- () 30. Which of the following is not a design feature of human language?
A. Arbitrariness. B. Displacement.
C. Duality. D. Meaningfulness.
- () 31. Which of the following statements about language is NOT true?
A. Language is a system. B. Language is symbolic.
C. Animals also have language. D. Language is arbitrary.
- () 32. Language can be used to refer to contexts removed from the immediate situations of the speaker. This feature is called _____.
A. displacement B. duality
C. flexibility D. cultural transmission
- () 33. Which consonant represents the following description: voiceless labiodentals fricative?
A. /v/ B. /s/ C. /f/ D. /m/