

2nd Semester Exam., 2026 (May) (FYUP)

AEC-2 (ENGLISH)

[Academic Writing]

Full Marks : 70

Pass Marks : 28

Time : 3 hours

General Instructions :

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Marks for each question are indicated in the figure.

A. Choose the correct answer and rewrite them :

1×10=10

1. Which property allows us to use language to talk about language?

- (A) Arbitrariness
- (B) Cultural transmission
- (C) Displacement
- (D) Reflexivity

(2)

2. What is the term that the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis is commonly known by?
- (A) Linguistic culture
(B) Linguistic psychology
(C) Linguistic relativity
(D) Linguistic science
3. What is plagiarism in academic research?
- (A) Inventing data to support research
(B) Not publishing research findings
(C) Taking long breaks during research
(D) Using someone else's work or ideas without giving proper credit
4. Which of the following is not a feature of Gricean maxims?
- (A) Manner
(B) Moral
(C) Quality
(D) Relation

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(Continued)

(3)

5. Which of the following is an ethical violation in workplace etiquette?
- (A) Protecting confidential information
(B) Respecting boundaries
(C) Accepting bribes or favors
(D) Following company protocols
6. Choose the correct combination from the following matrix (speech community) :

Column—I	Column—II	Column—III
a. Members of the same tribe	1. Share speech norms	(i) Recognized as a speech community
b. Cricket fans from different countries meeting once	2. Do not necessarily share speech norms	(ii) Temporary social grouping
c. Teachers in one school using the same language rules	3. Follow common linguistic conventions	(iii) Communication is based on shared norms
d. People standing in a shopping queue	4. No stable linguistic relationship	(iv) Not considered a speech community

Codes :

- (A) a b c d
 1 2 3 4
 (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)
- (B) a b c d
 2 1 3 4
 (ii) (i) (iii) (iv)

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(Turn Over)

(4)

(C) a b c d
 1 2 4 3
 (iii) (iv) (ii) (i)

(D) a b c d
 4 3 2 1
 (iv) (iii) (ii) (i)

7. Which of the following statements correctly describe communicative competence?

1. It helps speakers choose language appropriate to the situation.
2. It includes discourse competence.
3. It is limited to vocabulary and grammar only.
4. It includes strategic competence.
5. It discourages the use of communication strategies.

(A) 1, 2 and 3

(B) 2, 4 and 5

(C) 1, 2 and 4

(D) 1, 3, 4 and 5

(5)

8. A new employee enters the office to meet the manager for the first time. Which of the following options shows the correct sequence of professional etiquette?

1. Greet the manager politely
2. Introduce yourself
3. Shake hands if appropriate or if the manager offers
4. Begin the official discussion

Options :

(A) 2-1-3-4

(B) 3-2-1-4

(C) 1-2-3-4

(D) 4-1-2-3

9. Two statements as Assertion (A) and Reasoning (R) are given below followed by various options :

Assertion (A) :

The Bow-wow theory states that human language originated by imitating the sounds of nature.

Reasoning (R) :

According to this theory, words such as animal cries and natural sounds inspired early human speech.

(6)

Choose the correct option :

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
- (C) (A) is true, but (R) is false
- (D) (A) is false, but (R) is true

10. Two statements as Assertion (A) and Reasoning (R) are given below followed by various options :

Assertion (A) :

The maxim of Manners encourages speakers to express their ideas clearly and avoid ambiguity.

Reasoning (R) :

The maxim of Manners requires speakers to provide as much information as possible on a topic.

Choose the correct option :

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
- (C) (A) is false, but (R) is true
- (D) (A) is true, but (R) is false

(7)

B. Answer all the following questions in approximately 30-40 words each : $2 \times 5 = 10$

11. What are the primary methods of communication used by animals?

12. How is 'accent' different from 'dialect'?

13. A student writes a paragraph using short, clear sentences and simple words so that everyone can understand it. Which feature of prose writing is shown here? Explain.

14. How does one develop communicative competence?

Or

Why is strategic competence important in communication?

15. During a classroom discussion, Anjali says, "Anil has completed his project on time." Which type of discourse is used here? Explain why.

Or

During an office meeting, an employee listens carefully without interrupting others and speaks only when given a chance. Which etiquette is illustrated here?

Mary (Senior designer), Deb (Engineer) and Sarah (Project manager). Mary began sharing her screen to present user testing data. The data indicated that users were abandoning their carts due to a confusing layout. But Jack repeatedly interrupted Mary and tried to prove himself right by claiming that the layout was fine. Mary was frustrated by this and she then muted her microphone and stopped sharing her screen. The meeting concluded twenty minutes later without any resolution.

Questions :

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) Which Gricean maxim did Jack violate here? | 1 |
| (b) What structural impact did Jack's interruptions have on the overall coherence of the meeting? | 2 |
| (c) Was Jack's strategy successful in maintaining organizational communication? Justify your answer using the outcome of the meeting. | 2 |

D. Answer all the questions within 180-200 words each :
10×2=20

22. How is linguistic determinism different from linguistic relativity?

Or

Explain linguistic relativity theory. How does the language we use influence our thought?

23. What are the core components of a discourse? How do the core components help a speaker communicate a message effectively? Explain with examples.

Or

Why is active listening an important protocol for both the interviewer and the interviewee?
