

# 國立中山大學 104 學年度碩士暨碩士專班招生考試試題

科目名稱：語言學概論【外文系碩士班乙組】

題號：412003

※本科目依簡章規定「不可以」使用計算機(問答申論題)

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Instruction: You're required to write **in English** all your answers on the answer sheet provided. Please number your answers in your answer sheet according to the question numbers.

## (I) Definition and short essay questions: (50%)

Choose 5 out of the 7 (sets of) items below. For each chosen one, do the followings:

- (i) define the meaning of the term (or set of the terms)
- (ii) discuss the content in more details: for example,
  - discussing why these terms are coined in which linguistic sub-field
  - providing appropriate examples to elaborate on your discussion
  - discussing how they are used to characterize linguistic properties

(1) **analytic language, and synthetic (agglutinative) language**

(2) **speech act**

(3) **grammar** (what is grammar? How many kinds of grammar?)

(4) **fundamental difference hypothesis**

(5) **X-bar theory**

(6) **inflection and derivation**

(7) **c-selection and s-selection**

## (II) Problem-solving (50%)

1. In several languages, there is a morphological process whereby an "expletive" is added to a word. The expletive is usually used as a profane expression of the speaker's anger or surprise and also for the purpose of intensification. Below are a few examples from English, in which the expletive *fuckin'* is affixed to some common English words. Examine the examples and answer Questions 1-1 to 1-3.

- (1)
- |                                |                                 |                              |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| unbe- <i>fuckin'</i> -lievable | irre- <i>fuckin'</i> -sponsible | abso- <i>fuckin'</i> -lutely |
| edu- <i>fuckin'</i> -cation    | Phila- <i>fuckin'</i> -delphia  | intro- <i>fuckin'</i> -duce  |

**Question 1-1.** Determine which type of affix *fuckin'* is. (5%)

**Question 1-2.** Suppose that the examples in (1) above are the currently available data. Specify what conditions the placement of *fuckin'* and state a rule for it (10%)

**Question 1-3.** Now consider more examples below. Can the rule that you proposed for the data in (1) apply to those in (2) as well? If it can, explain how. If not, modify your rule. (10%)

- (2)
- |                                |                                 |                            |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| un- <i>fuckin'</i> -believable | un- <i>fuckin'</i> -predictable | Inter- <i>fuckin'</i> -net |
| re- <i>fuckin'</i> -peat       | im- <i>fuckin'</i> -possible    | home- <i>fuckin'</i> -town |

2. Mandarin Chinese is a tonal language in which there is a phonological phenomenon commonly referred to the Third Tone Sandhi. It is a process by which a third tone is changed into a second tone when preceding another third tone. The Third Tone Sandhi Rule is spelled out as follows:

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3 → 2 / \_\_\_ 3

The Mandarin second and third tones are represented by the numbers 2 and 3 here and below. The application of the rule would be complicated when strings of more than syllables bearing the third tones are involved. Examine the examples presented below and answer Questions 2-1 to 2-3.

**Question 2-1.** Consider the verb phrase *mai hao bi* first, whose meaning is ambiguous at the segmental level:

	<i>mai</i>	<i>hao</i>	<i>bi</i>	<i>mai</i>	<i>hao</i>	<i>bi</i>
	buy	good	pen	buy	aspect marker	pen
Underlying tone:	3	3	3	3	3	3
Surface tone:	3	2	3	2	2	3
Meaning:	'buy a good pen'			'(have) bought a pen'		

However, the two different surface tone patterns generated by the Third Tone Sandhi can help differentiate the meanings. Identify the factor that may cause the sandhi rule to apply differently in the two cases above. (5%)

**Question 2-2.** Explain how the sandhi rule applies differently in the cases above as a result of the factor that you just identified (10%)

**Question 2-3.** Now consider three more examples, which are cited from Hung's (1987). This time the data are not verb phrases like *mai hao bi*, but are simply lists of elements that can be found on a periodic table:

(1)

	<i>meng,</i>	<i>jia,</i>	<i>mei</i>
	manganese	potassium	magnesium
Underlying tone:	3	3	3
Surface tone:	2	2	3

(2)

	<i>meng,</i>	<i>jia,</i>	<i>mei,</i>	<i>lu</i>
	manganese	potassium	magnesium	aluminum
Underlying tone:	3	3	3	3
Surface tone:	2	3	2	3

(3)

	<i>meng,</i>	<i>jia,</i>	<i>mei,</i>	<i>dian,</i>	<i>lu</i>
	manganese	potassium	magnesium	iodine	aluminum
Underlying tone:	3	3	3	3	3
Surface tone: (a)	2	3	2	2	3
(b)	2	2	3	2	3

Note that the third example has two possible readings. Can the analysis that you developed for the example of *mai hao bi* still apply to Hung's data? If it can, explain how. If it cannot, develop another analysis. (10%)