



ENG523

Solved Mid-Term_Spring2026

ABSTRACT

This comprehensive collection of notes is accurately crafted to empower students to excel academically, ensuring they achieve a minimum of 80% marks in their examinations. The content is organized with clarity and precision, focusing on key concepts, critical analyses, and practical applications tailored to the syllabus. These notes serve as a reliable resource for both thorough preparation and last-minute revision. Designed to inspire confidence and mastery, this guide is an essential tool for students striving for academic excellence.

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Solved Mid-Term

Short Questions

1. What are discourse markers and how are they used in communication?

Discourse markers are words or expressions such as *well, oh, but, you know, and now* that help organize discourse, connect ideas, manage conversation, and indicate shifts in topics.

2. How do discourse analysts contribute in social contexts?

Discourse analysts study language in use, examine communication patterns, and explain how language reflects social relationships, identities, and cultural practices.

3. Define the term language function.

Language function refers to the communicative purpose that language serves, such as requesting, informing, questioning, persuading, or apologizing.

4. Coherent discourse.

Coherent discourse is discourse that makes sense to the reader or listener and whose ideas are logically connected and meaningful.

5. Eliciting exchange.

An eliciting exchange is a classroom interaction in which a teacher asks a question, a student responds, and the teacher provides feedback or evaluation.

6. Main focus of discourse analysis.

The main focus of discourse analysis is the study of language above the sentence level and the contexts in which language is used.

7. Define pragmatics by Piaget.

According to Piaget, pragmatics is the study of how language is used in social interaction and how meaning is interpreted according to context.

8. Write 3 features of transactional talk.

- Focuses on information exchange.
- Emphasizes the message rather than participants.
- Uses questions, repetitions, and clarification strategies.

9. Prejudice – define.

Prejudice is a preconceived opinion or judgment about a person or group that is not based on reason or actual experience.

10. Enlist linguistic context aspects.

- Phonological context
- Lexical context
- Grammatical context
- Semantic context

11. Why do young children communicate emotion to others?

Young children communicate emotions to express their needs, feelings, desires, and to establish social relationships with others.

12. About academic writing.

Academic writing is a formal, objective, clear, and organized style of writing used in educational and research settings.

13. Main focus of discourse analysts in discourse analysis.

Discourse analysts focus on patterns of language use, communication processes, social interaction, and the relationship between language and context.

❖ Long Questions

1. Difference between Language Attitudes and Language Ideologies

Language Attitudes

Individual opinions and feelings about a language or dialect.

Personal and subjective.

May involve liking or disliking a language variety.

Example: Thinking a particular accent sounds pleasant.

Language Ideologies

Shared beliefs and assumptions about language within a society.

Socially and culturally constructed.

Influence language policies, education, and social practices.

Example: Believing one language variety is superior to others.

2. Difference between Locutionary and Perlocutionary Acts

Locutionary Act

The actual utterance or statement made. The effect produced on the listener.

Focuses on what is said.

Concerned with literal meaning.

Example: "Close the door."

Perlocutionary Act

Focuses on what happens as a result of what is said.

Concerned with listener response.

Example: The listener closes the door.

3. Define Locutionary and Perlocutionary Acts

Locutionary Act:

The act of producing a meaningful linguistic expression or utterance with a particular sense and reference.

Perlocutionary Act:

The effect that an utterance has on the thoughts, feelings, or actions of the listener, such as persuading, frightening, or convincing.

4. Information Exchange in Speech Language

Information exchange is a type of communication in which speakers share, request, or receive information. It usually occurs through questions, answers, explanations, and descriptions. In discourse analysis, information exchange is common in classrooms, interviews, discussions, and everyday conversations. The main objective is to communicate information effectively so that the listener understands the intended message. Participants often use clarification requests, repetitions, and confirmation checks to ensure successful communication.

5. Discourse Ideology

Discourse ideology refers to the system of beliefs, values, and assumptions that influence how language is used and interpreted within a society. It shapes people's views about languages, dialects, communication styles, and social identities. Discourse ideologies affect power relations, social norms, and cultural practices. Through discourse, dominant groups may reinforce particular beliefs and values, while others may challenge them. Thus, discourse ideology plays an important role in shaping social reality and communication patterns.

6. What is the focus of Conversation Analysis on Communication?

Conversation analysis focuses on the organization and structure of naturally occurring talk. It examines how speakers take turns, manage topics, use adjacency pairs, repair misunderstandings, and maintain interaction. The goal is to understand the rules and patterns that make conversation meaningful and orderly. Important areas include turn-taking, greetings, question-answer sequences, interruptions, and conversational norms.

7. Talk as Transaction – Five Skills of Burns

According to Burns, talk as transaction focuses on exchanging information and completing tasks. Five important skills involved are:

1. Explaining a need or intention.

2. Describing something clearly.
3. Asking questions.
4. Asking for clarification.
5. Confirming information.

Other related skills include making suggestions, justifying opinions, making comparisons, and agreeing or disagreeing.

8. Constative Utterance

A constative utterance is a statement that describes a situation, event, or fact and can be judged as true or false. It is used to provide information rather than perform an action. For example, “The sun rises in the east” is a constative utterance because it states a fact that can be verified. According to speech act theory, constative utterances contrast with performative utterances, which perform actions through language.

9. Situational Context’s Role in Communication

Situational context refers to the circumstances in which communication takes place, including the participants, location, time, purpose, and social setting. It helps speakers and listeners interpret meaning accurately. The same utterance may have different meanings depending on the situation. Situational context influences language choice, tone, politeness, and interaction patterns. Effective communication depends on understanding the context because meaning is not contained only in words but is constructed through the interaction between language and context.

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Compilation