

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LINGUISTICS

### PhD Admission / Entry Test

#### (Sample Test)

|                        |                         |                     |                              |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Program:</b>        | PhD English Linguistics | <b>Total Marks:</b> | 100                          |
| <b>Candidate Name:</b> | _____                   | <b>Duration:</b>    | 2 Hours                      |
| <b>Roll No.:</b>       | _____                   | <b>Marks Split:</b> | 70 (MCQs) + 30 (Descriptive) |

**Instructions:** This paper is entirely subject-based (English Linguistics) and is divided into two sections. Total time allowed: 2 hours.

**Section A (70 Marks):** Contains 70 objective-based, subject-specific Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs), each carrying 1 mark. Choose the single best answer by marking (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e).

**Section B (30 Marks):** Contains 5 subjective/descriptive questions. Candidates must attempt any THREE (03) questions. Each question carries 10 marks.

#### Section A: Subject-Based MCQs — 70 Marks

1. Which concept refers to a constraint requiring output forms to be faithful to input forms in Optimality Theory?

- (a) Markedness   (b) Faithfulness   (c) Sonority   (d) Underspecification   (e) Extrametricality

2. Which term refers to a morphological process where a word's grammatical category changes without adding any affix (e.g., 'to email' from the noun 'email')?

- (a) Blending   (b) Conversion (zero-derivation)   (c) Clipping   (d) Reduplication   (e) Back-formation

3. Searle's classification of speech acts includes all of the following EXCEPT:

- (a) Assertives   (b) Directives   (c) Commissives   (d) Expressives   (e) Phonemics

4. Which typological classification distinguishes languages based on the position of the verb relative to subject and object (e.g., SVO, SOV)?

- (a) Morphological typology   (b) Word order typology   (c) Phonological typology   (d) Semantic typology   (e) Sociolinguistic typology

#### Section B: Subjective / Descriptive Questions — 30 Marks

*Note: Attempt any THREE (03) of the following FIVE (05) questions. Each question carries 10 marks.*

**Q1.** Examine the variationist approach to sociolinguistics developed by William Labov. How has this approach contributed to our understanding of language change and social stratification? (10 marks)