KARNATAKA STATE ELIGIBILITY TEST (K-SET)
FOR ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Subject: LINGUISTICS

Subject Code: 38

SYLLABUS

UNIT – 1: LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

*Nature of language*: Language in spoken and written modes, language as written text – philological literary notions i.e., norm, purity and their preservation; language as a cultural heritage – codification and transmission of cultural knowledge and behavior; language as a marker of social identity; language as an object i.e., notion of autonomy, structure and its units and components; design Features of language; writing system – units of writing – sound (alphabetic), or syllable (syllabic) and morpheme/word (logographic), sign language; existence of language faculty; linguistic competence, ideal speaker-hearer.

*Approaches to the Study of Language*: Ancient approaches to the study of language: Indian and Greco-Roman, semiotic approach – interpretation of sign; language as a system of social behavior – use of language in family, community and country; language as a system of communication – communicative functions- emotive, cognitive, referential, poetic, metalinguistic and phatic; language as a cognitive system; relation with culture and thought (Linguistic Relativity); Saussurean dichotomies: signifier and signified, langue and parole, synchronic and diachronic, syntagmatic and paradigmatic.

*Language Analysis*: Levels and their hierarchy – phonetic /phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic/pragmatic; their interrelations; linguistic units and their distribution at different levels; notions of contrast and complementation; - emic and –etic categorization; notion of rule at different levels; description vs. explanation of grammatical facts.

Unit 2: Phonetics and Phonology

Phonetics

Phonetics as a study of speech sounds; articulatory, auditory, and acoustic phonetics. 


Acoustic Phonetics: Sound waves – simple and complex, periodic and aperiodic; harmonics; frequency and fundamental frequency, amplitude, duration; resonance, filters, spectrum, spectrogram; formants, transition, burst; voice onset time; aspiration; noise spectra; cues for speech sounds; vowel (monophthong and diphthong), semivowel, stop, fricative, nasal, lateral, glide, places of articulation of consonants.

Phonology

Descriptive Phonology: Phonetics vs. phonology; concept of phoneme, phone and allophone; principles of phonemic analysis – phonetic similarity, contrastive distribution, complementary distribution, free variation, pattern congruity; nations of biuniqueness, neutralization and archiphoneme.

Generative Phonology: Linear and non-linear approaches: levels of phonological representation; phonological rules; distinctive features (major class, manner, place, etc.); abstractness controversy; rule ordering and types of rule ordering, markedness; principles of lexical phonology; principles of optimality theory.

Unit 3. Morphology

Basic Concepts: Scope and nature of morphology; concepts of morpheme, morph, allomorph, zero allomorph, conditions on allomorphs; lexeme and word; Types of morphemes – free and bound; root, stem, base, suffix, infix, prefix, portmanteau morpheme, suppletive, replacive;
affixes vs. clitics; grammatical categories – tense, aspect, mood, person, gender, number, case; case markers and case relations; pre-and post-positions; models of morphological description: item and arrangement, item and process, word and paradigm;

**Morphological Analysis:** Identification of morphemes; morphological alternation; morphophonemic processes; internal and external sandhi; inflection vs. derivation; conjugation and declension.

**Word-Formation Processes:** Derivation (primary vs. secondary derivation, nominalization, verbalization, etc.), compounding (types of compounds: endocentric, exocentric, etc.), reduplication, back-formation, conversion, clipping, blending, acronyms, fold etymology, creativity and productivity, blocking, bracketing paradoxes, constraints on affix ordering.

**Morpho-syntax:** Nominalization and lexicalist hypothesis; grammatical function changing rules: causatives, passives.

**Unit – 4 : Syntax**

**Traditional and Structural Syntax :** parts of speech: Indian classification (naama, aakhyaata, upasarga, nipaata); basic syntactic units and their types: word, phrase, clause, sentence, karaka relations; grammatical relations and case relations; construction types (exocentric, endocentric, etc.), immediate constituent analysis.

**Generative Syntax:** Parameters and universal grammar, null subject parameter, innateness hypothesis, meaning of the term ‘generative’ transformational generative grammar, structure and structure-dependence, diagnostics for structure; complements and adjuncts, principles and parameters theory, X-bar theory, theta theory, binding theory; pro-drop, NP-movement, wh-movement, head movement, adjunction and substitution, constraints on movement, subadjacency, government and proper government, small clauses, topicalization; unergatives and unaccusatives, VP-internal subject hypothesis; split VP and VP-shell hypothesis, cross-over phenomena; checking theory of case, copy theory of movement, inclusiveness principle.

**Some Key Concepts in the Minimalist Programme:** Spell-out, greed, procrastination, last resort, AGR-based case theory, multiple-spec hypothesis, strong and weak features; interpretable and non-interpretatable features.
**Transformational components:** The copy theory of movement, its properties, checking devices and features of convergence.

**Unit – 5 : Semantics and Pragmatics**

**Semantics:** Types of meaning; descriptive, emotive and phatic; sense and reference, connotation and denotation, sense relations (homonymy, hyponymy, antonymy, synonymy, etc.); types of opposition (taxonomic, polar, etc.); ambiguity, sentence meaning and truth conditions, contradictions, entailment; ‘abhidha’, ‘laksana’, ‘vyanjana’, Nations of membership, union, intersection, cardinality; mapping and functions; propositions, truth values, sentential connectives; arguments, predicates, quantifiers, variables; componential analysis; definiteness, mood and modality, specific vs. generic; definite and indefinite; compositionality and its limitations.

**Pragmatics:** Language use in context; communication: message model and inferential model of communication, sentence meaning and utterance meaning; speech acts; deixis; presupposition and implicature; Gricean maxims; information structure; indexicals, politeness, power and solidarity, discourse analysis.

**Unit – 6 : Historical Linguistics**

**Sound Change:** Neogrammarian laws of phonetic change: Grimm’s Verner’s, Grassmann’s Laws; genesis and spread of sound change; split an merger; conditioned vs. unconditioned change; types of changes –phonetic vs. phonemic changes; assimilation and dissimilation, coalescence, metathesis, deletion, epenthesis; lexical diffusion of sound change; analogy and its relationship to sound change; reconstructing the proto-stages of languages; tree and wave models; relative chronology of different changes. Sociolinguistic approach to language change: social motivation of language change; study of sound change in progress.

**Morphosyntactic and Semantic Change:** Phonological change leading to changes in morphology and syntax; syntax; syncretism, grammaticalisation and lexicalization; principles of recovering grammatical categories and contrasts; semantic change and processes of semantic change –extension, narrowing, figurative speech.

**Linguistic Reconstruction:** External vs. internal reconstruction: comparative method, collection of cognates, establishing phonological correspondences; reconstruction of the phonemes of the proto-language based on contrast and complementation; morphophonemic alternations as the source for reconstruction; recovering historical contrasts by comparing, alternating and non-alternating paradigms; accounting for exceptions to sound change-analogy, borrowing, onomatopoeia, the interplay of analogy and sound change; lexicostatistics.
**Language Contact and Dialect Geography**: Linguistic borrowing, lexical and structural; motivations, loan translation, loan blend, calque, assimilated and unassimilated loans: tadbhava and tatsama; different types of borrowing—cultural, intimate and dialect; classification of loanwords; impact of borrowing on language; pidgins and creoles; bilingualism as the source for borrowing; dialect geography: dialect atlas; isogloss; focal area, transition area and relic area

**Unit – 7 : Sociolinguistics**

**Basic Concepts**: Sociolinguistics and sociology of language; micro- and macro approaches to language in society; linguistic repertoire: language, dialect, sociolect, idiolocat; diglossia, taboo, slang; elaborated and restricted codes; speech community, communicative competence, ethnography of speaking; language of wider communication; lingua franca; language and social inequality; language in diaspora; new linguistic; world orders.

**Linguistic Variability**: Patterns in linguistic variation, linguistic variables and their co-variation with linguistic dimensions, social class/ social network / age / gender/ ethnicity; language loyalty, social identity and social attitudes, stereotypes.

**Language Contact**: Bilingualism, multilingualism; code-mixing and code-switching; outcomes of language contact: language maintenance, borrowing, convergence, substratum effect, pidginization and creolization; language loss.

**Language Development**: Language planning, corpus and status planning, standardization and modernization; language movements – state and societal interventions; script development and modifications; linguistic minorities and their problems.

**Language Ecology and Endangerment**: Superdiversity, linguistic landscaping, linguistic vitality, language endangerment, parameters of endangerment, documentation of endangered languages, revitalization.

**Sociolinguistic Methodology**: Sampling and tools; identification of sociolinguistic variables and their variants; data processing and interpretation; quantitative analysis of data; variables rules; ethnomethodology; participant observation.

**Unit – 8 : Areal Typology and South Asian Language Families**

**Language Typology, Universals and Linguistic Relatedness**: Language typology and language universals; morphological types of languages - agglutinative, analytical (isolating), synthetic
fusional (inflecting), infixing and polysynthetic (incorporating) languages. Formal and substantive universals, absolute and statistical universals; implicational and non-implicational universals; linguistic relatedness – genetic, typological and areal classification of languages.

**Approaches for Study:** Inductive vs deductive approaches; universals of language and parametric variation; word order typology; Greenberg’s characteristics for verb final an verb medical languages and related features in the context of south Asian Languages.

**Salient Features of South Asian Languages:** Phonetic, phonological, morphological, and syntactic features of Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic, and Tibeto - Burman language families of South Asia; Linguistic Survey Asia; Linguistic Survey of India as a source of information; contact induced typological change; convergence and syntactic change.

**India as a Linguistic Area:** The notion of linguistic area; language contact and convergence with special reference to the concept of ‘India as a Linguistic Area’; features of retroflexion, vowel harmony, aspiration, reduplication, echo formation, onomatopoeia, explicator compound verbs, anaphora; India as sociolinguistic area, India as a semantic area; notion of microlinguistic area.

**Unit – 9 : Interdisciplinary and Applied Linguistics – I (Psycholinguistics, Language Learning and Language Teaching)**

**Psycholinguistics**

**Basic Concepts:** Basic issues in psycholinguistics, brain language relationship, the different theoretical orientations: empiricist – behaviourist, biological – nativist, and cognitive-interactionalist, biological foundations of language; language acquisition and stages; critical period hypothesis.

**Language Processing:** The processes of perception, comprehension and production; evidence of language production; steps in comprehension; mental representation of language and lexicon; relationship between comprehension and production.

**Clinical Psycholinguistics:** Normal and pathological language; aphasia; dyslexia; stuttering; language in the hearing-impaired; language in mental retardation.

**Language Learning and Language Teaching:**

**Language Teaching and Language Learning:** First and second language learning; behaviouristic and cognitive theories of language learning; social and psychological aspects of
Language Teaching Analysis: Goals of language teaching; factors in the preparation of language teaching syllabus: linguistic theory, social and psychological factors, needs analysis, class-room presentation; text-book evaluation; types of syllabus: Structural, communicative, national; the role of the teacher and teacher training; role of self-access packages; socio-linguistic and psychological aspects of language teaching and learning.

Contrastive Analysis: Error analysis and interlanguage; basic interpersonal communicative skills (BICS) and cognitive advanced language proficiency (CALP);


Translation

Paraphrase, translation and transcreation; translation of literary text and technical text; use of linguistics in translation; linguistic affinity and translatability; untranslatability; units of translation; equivalence of meaning and style; translation loss and gain; problems of cultural terms; scientific terms; idioms, metaphors and proverbs; false friends and translation shifts; evaluation of translation; fidelity and readability; types of translation – simultaneous interpretation, machine aided translation, media translation (dubbing, copy-editing, advertisement, slogans, jingles, etc.)

Lexicography

Making of a Dictionary: Linguistics and lexicography, dictionary entries – arrangement of information; meaning descriptions – synonymy, polysemy, homonymy, antonymy and hyponymy; treatment of technical terms vs. general words.

Types of Dictionaries: Literary, scientific and technical; comprehensive and concise, monolingual and bilingual; general and learner’s historical and etymological, dictionary of idioms and phrases, encyclopaedic dictionary, electronic dictionary, reverse dictionary, thesaurus and other distinguishing purpose and features of various types; computational lexicography.

Computational Linguistics

Artificial intelligence and language; natural language processing (NLP); computational linguistics and its relation to allied disciplines; machine language; parsing and generation;
parsers; compilers; interpreters – information processing, structuring and manipulating data; corpus building; attempts of NLP and corpus work in India: Anusaraka parsing: morphological recognizers, analyzers and generators for Indian languages; designing code, building of machine translation systems (MTS); hyper grammars, building of word nets, The Kolhapur Corpus of Indian English, the TDIL Corpus Project.

**Stylistics**

Style – individual style, period style.; style as choice, style as deviation, style as ‘riti’, style as ‘alankara’; style as ‘vyanjana’ (‘vakrokti’); Foregrounding; Parallelism; Text as grammar: structure and texture, cohesion and coherence; semiotic aspects of a literary text; stylistics of discourse; levels of stylistic analysis – phonological, lexical, syntactic and semantic; stylistic devices in literary texts.

**Language and Media**

Mass media: print and electronic, types of language used in mass media; news, editorials, advertising, writing and editing for print and electronic media, impact of mass media on language.

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