



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

EXAMINATION FOR MASTERS IN LINGUISTICS

LING 821: LANGUAGE LEARNING AND ACQUISITION

STREAM: R

TIME: 3 HRS

DAY: MONDAY (8.30-11.30AM)

DATE: 18/12/23

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.



INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any **THREE** questions

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

(a) Explain the following theories of language acquisition:

i. Markedness – Differential Hypothesis (5 marks)

ii. Cognitive Theory (5 marks)

(b) Illustrate two evidence to support the Innatist theory and the Input or Interactionist

theory (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

(a) Describe what role the structure and organization of the brain play in language

processing (10 marks)

(b) Discuss two theories that attempt to justify the relationship between language and

thought (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

(a) Explain how the input and linguistic input variation in a pidgin – speaking community impact the language acquisition process in terms of vocabulary development and grammar (10 marks)

(b) Discuss two theories of pidginisation and creolization (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Write short notes on the psycholinguistic basis for the learning of the following:

i. Phonological skills (5 marks)

ii. Syntactic skills (5 marks)

iii. Morphological skills (5 marks)

iv. Pragmatic skills (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Explain the differences in language profiles between children with dyslexia and dysgraphia (10 marks)
- (b) Discuss how these profiles guide targeted interventions and accommodation in education setting (10 marks)

QUESTION SIX (20 MARKS)

Elaborate five sources and types of variability in second language acquisition and interlanguage (20 marks)

