**TU/ CDOE**

**TEZPUR UNIVERSITY**

**SEMESTER END EXAMINATION (AUTUMN 2022)**

**MEG/MAEGD 104: ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE**

**Time**: 3 Hours **Total Marks:** 70

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks for the individual question.*

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1. Answer the following: 14x3= 42

1. Argue that language is not an objective construction of the world, it is rather an ideological construct. Write your answer in not more than 500 words.
2. Formal lessons in grammar are not necessary for a child to speak her mother tongue or first language. How does Chomsky explain this phenomenon? Write your answer in not more than 500 words.
3. What is Paul Grice’s four maxims of conversation? Show how the first and the fourth maxims are often grossly violated in modern poetry. Write your answer in not more than 500 words.

2. Answer the following: 8x3=24

1. There is no one-to-one correspondence between letters of the alphabet of English and its phonemes so that English spellings are clumsy. Explain the phenomenon (in about 120 words) with suitable examples.
2. Show that *stress* and *rhythm* are two features of the English sound system.
3. State **True** or **False (any eight)**:

i) The underlined item in the following sentence is a gerund:

*He’s swimming in the pond.*

ii) The sentence, *I look forward to meet you next month*,is a

correct grammatical sentence.

iii) The sentences *She stopped to smoke* and *She stopped*

*smoking* have the same meaning.

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iv) In the sentence, *The man who I met here yesterday was a*

*lawyer*,the clause *who I met here yesterday* is a relative

clause.

v) English has three times and three tenses.

vi) The weak forms of the vowels are used in English to maintain

rhythm.

vii) According to Chomsky, the human baby is born with the

grammar of her mother tongue or first language.

viii) Old English was spoken between 1150 AD to 1450 AD.

ix) The English bound morpheme *–ing* (as in *eating*) is a

derivational morpheme.

3. Give two ambiguous sentences from English. 2

4. Underline the complement clauses in the following sentences:

1x2= 2

1. I know that he didn’t do it.
2. I hate to drink.

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