

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Programme: M. A. English

II Semester Examination, April/May-2026

Course Title: **Introduction to Linguistics**

Course code: **MAEN202DST**

Time: **3 Hours**

Marks: **70**

Note: This question paper consists of three parts: Part-A, Part-B and Part-C. Number of words to answer each question is only indicative. Attempt all parts.

Part-A contains **10** compulsory questions of multiple choice/fill in the blank/very short answer type question. Answer all questions. Each question carries 1 mark. **(10x1=10 marks)**

Part-B contains **08** questions, of which students are supposed to answer **05** questions. Answer a descriptive question in approximately 200 words. Each question carries 04 marks. **(5x6=30 marks)**

Part-C contains **05** questions, of which students are supposed to answer **03** questions only. Answer each question in approximately 500 words. Each question carries 10 marks. **(3x10=30 marks)**

Part-A

1. Fill up the blanks in the following: Each statement carries one mark.

- i. _____ of human language is called linguistics.
- ii. _____ refers to the capacity that enables speakers (and writers) to use language appropriately
- iii. 'Language can be best viewed as a three-sided triangle of _____'.
- iv. _____ are phonetic symbols of aspirated plosives.
- v. _____ change the form of a word but not its lexical category.
- vi. '_____ is the part of grammar that governs the organization of words in phrases and sentences.'
- vii. _____ is the study of the systematic ways in which languages structure meaning especially in words and sentences.
- viii. _____ focuses on language as part of culture and society.
- ix. _____ is concerned with why and how languages change and develop.
- x. _____ studies language in context.

Part-B

2. Write a short note on arbitrary and non-arbitrary signs.
3. Describe all the consonants of RP English.
4. Discuss different ways in which new words are derived in English.
5. Explain with illustrations 'constituency and tree diagrams'.
6. What are phrase structure rules? Discuss.
7. Bring out the differences among word meaning, sentence meaning and utterance meaning.
8. Write a note on personal, spatial, and temporal deixis with examples.
9. What is a dialect? Explain.

Part-C

10. Discuss word accentual patterns in English with examples.
11. Write comprehensive notes on surface structures and deep structures, and transformations.
12. Discuss the concepts of lexical field, hyponymy, synonymy and antonymy.
13. Explain different categories of information structure.
14. What is sociolinguistics? Discuss.
