



Botswana Open
University

BOTSWANA COLLEGE OF OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION – PRIMARY

LANGUAGE DIDACTICS

LD 221

SESSIONAL EXAMINATION

MARKS: 100

DURATION: 3 HOURS

Instructions to students:

1. This examination paper consist of **Five Sections**
2. Begin each answer to a new question on a new page
3. Answer all the questions according to instructions given in each section
4. Write in correct grammatical English

SECTION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE

10 MARKS

1. One of the factors that can negatively impact on second language learning is
 - A. Scaffolding
 - B. Kinaesthetics
 - C. Mother tongue interference
 - D. Technology

2. Phonology refers to;
 - A. The acquisition of words.
 - B. The acquisition of sounds.
 - C. The ability to construct meaningful sentences.
 - D. The acquisition of meaning of words.

3. Which of the following statements is **false** about language?
 - A. Language is complex.
 - B. Language is arbitrary.
 - C. Language is a system consisting of a set of symbols.
 - D. Acquisition method or mechanism of language is not universal.

4. The following are the key issues in second language acquisition except;
 - A. Grammar learning
 - B. Age Factor
 - C. Mother Tongue Influence
 - D. Motivation

5. What does CLT in language teaching stand for?
- A. Communicative Learners Theory
 - B. Compound Language Theory
 - C. Communicative Language Teaching
 - D. Concrete Language Teaching
6. Technology can be advantageous in a language class and can also have limitations that can impair the learning process. Which of the following is a limitation?
- A. Adapting teaching material from the Internet to suit the learner's needs.
 - B. It is time consuming when learners have to change their classrooms to attend a lesson where material from the Internet would be used.
 - C. There is no back up and alternative solution if there is a disruption.
 - D. Abundant material to use from the Internet.
7. A learner who is not motivated enough to learn a second language can be assisted by
- A. Speaking native language more often.
 - B. Total immersion.
 - C. Providing supportive classroom environment.
 - D. Finding a translator for the learner.

- 8.** In language learning a mistake occurs;
- A.** When a learner does not utilize a known system correctly because of a slip of the tongue.
 - B.** As a result from a deficiency in competence.
 - C.** When a language learner does not know the grammar rule.
 - D.** When a learner deviates from the grammar of a native speaker.
- 9.** In a teacher centered classroom;
- A.** Learners are allowed to assess themselves.
 - B.** Teacher talks all the time during the lesson.
 - C.** Learners are given time to express their difficulties.
 - D.** Subject matter is presented from the learner's perspective.
- 10.** Concrete Operational Stage in language acquisition occurs when
- A.** Children learn the language voluntarily.
 - B.** When children assimilate the information about the world around them.
 - C.** When children's thinking moves from immaturity to maturity.
 - D.** When children accommodate new words.

SECTION B – MATCHING ITEMS

10 MARKS

INSTRUCTIONS

- i) Match the following with the correct responses.
- ii) Write the number with corresponding letter on the answer booklet provided.

PART A	PART B
1. Error C	A. The ability to read texts smoothly, accurately and with understanding. ✓
2. Constructivism Theory G	B. The capacity to process information coming from an aural source. ✓
3. Lexis I	C. When the learner does not know the rule or is transferring a rule that exists in his/her L1.
4. Hearing H	D. The child learns language through imitation and association
5. Phonetic Representation K	E. The process of perceiving how written symbols correspond to one's spoken language. ✓
6. Word recognition E	F. The process of making sense of words, sentences and connected text. ✓
7. Fluency A	G. Children construct their own understanding of the world through their interactions with their environment. ✓
8. Mentalist theory J	H. The physical response caused by sound waves stimulating the sensory receptors of the ear. ✓
9. Comprehension F	I. The acquisition of words. ✓
10. Listening B	J. A child is born with some innate mental capacity which helps the child to process all the language he hears through the "Language acquisition Device" ✓
	K. An illustration of a sound. ✓

SECTION C STRUCTURED QUESTIONS

20 MARKS

Answer all questions

1. Explain the difference between acquisition and learning?

(4 marks)
2. Why is motivation important in learning a second language?

(2 Marks)
3. State **two (2)** roles of a teacher in a language classroom.

(2 marks)
4. Define immersion and explain one type of this concept.

(4 marks)
5. Which of the four (4) language skills involves both perception and thought?

(1 mark)
6. Name **one (1)** major area of Linguistic Competence and explain it with **one** relevant example.

(3 marks)
7. When learning a new language, students will make mistakes and errors that have to be corrected as and when they arise. Make a clear distinction between a mistake and an error.

(4 marks)

SECTION D CASE STUDY**(20 marks)**

Changu is a six years old standard one boy in your class who grew up with his Kalanga mother and grandmother in the village of Maitengwe. His father is from Bokspits and Changu occasionally visits him during school holidays. Afrikaans is a local language spoken in Bokspits and when Changu is there, he is quick to pick the language. Before Changu started school, he easily jumped between the two languages with ease because when he returned from Bokspits, he was fluent in Afrikaans while his Kalanga was at zero. But in no time, he would pick the Kalanga and slowly wipe out Afrikaans. When he gets to Bokspits, his Kalanga vocabulary would diminish and quickly pick Afrikaans. But at five years old, Changu was able to retain the two languages and was fluent in them.

After enrolling for standard one at Maitengwe Primary School, Changu started learning English because his teacher had adopted the Direct-Language Teaching method where the medium of instruction in all the subjects (except Setswana) was strictly English. During break time, Changu mingled with his Kalanga friends and played with his Kalanga neighbours after school. Changu continued to visit his father in Bokspits and that helped him retain Afrikaans. When his father called, he ensured that he strictly communicated with his son in Afrikaans. Currently Changu speaks fluent Kalanga, fluent Afrikaans and by the end of term three, he was able to communicate fluently in English.

1. What type of language immersion is Changu going through?
(2 marks)

2. How is it possible for Changu to speak all the three languages fluently?
(2 marks)

3. Before Changu started school, why was it easy for him to forget Kalanga when he was in Bokspits but quickly pick it up when he got back to Maitengwe?
(2 marks)

4. Which language do you think Changu will master as he grows? Give reasons for your answer.
(4 marks)

5. As Changu's teacher what two lessons can you transfer from Changu's experience and help promote fluency in the target language in your class?
(4 marks)

6. a. What kind of language acquisition is the most suitable to Changu's situation?
(2 marks)
b. Give reasons for your answer.
(2 marks)

7. In this case, what would you say is the mother tongue for Changu?
(2 marks)

SECTION E - ESSAYS QUESTIONS

40 MARKS

Answer two questions from this section.

1. With relevant examples, discuss the four key issues in Second Language Acquisition. **(20 Marks)**
2. Discuss in detail Stephen Krashen's five theories of language acquisition and show how a teacher can implement any two of the theories in class. **(20 Marks)**
3. Explain the four stages you would follow in assisting a young language learner to progress from writing a phrase to writing a short paragraph. **(20 Marks)**

Learning vs acquisition
natural order theory
input
monitor hypothesis
filter hypothesis