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(ENGLISH ONLY)

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# Unit - VIII English Language and Linguistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>P.No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td><strong>Family of Indo-European Languages</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.1 Old English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.2 Middle English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.3 Modern English</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td><strong>Morphology</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.1 Morphemes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.2 Aiffixes</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td><strong>Linguistics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.1 Perspective of Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.2 Historical Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.3 Sociolinguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.4 Neurolinguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.5 Dialects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.6 Phrase and Structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.7 Minimal Pairs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.8 Lingua Franca</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.9 Jargon</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td><strong>Phonology</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.1 Phonetics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2 Dichotic Listening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td><strong>Semantics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.1 Semantics – Definition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.2 Pragmatics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.3 Acronyms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td><strong>Language Acquisition</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.1 LSRW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.2 Theories of Language Acquisition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td><strong>Miscellaneous Topics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Family of Indo European Languages

1.1 Old English
1.2 Middle English
1.3 Modern English
Family of Indo-European Languages: (9)

- It is called as Indo - Aryan or Indo Germanic.
- It was spoken during 3500 BC to 3000 BC.

Eastern Group: (5)

- It is called “Satem Group” and it has 5 languages.
  1) Armenian
  2) Albanian
  3) Indian
  4) Iranian
  5) Balto-Slavic

Western Group: (4)

- It is called “Centum Group” and it has 4 languages.
  1) Greek
  2) Latin
  3) Celtic
  4) Primitive Germanic or Primitive Teutonic

1) Armenian:

- The language is found in south of the Caucasus Mountains and the eastern end of the Black sea.
- It has Persian influence

2) Albanian:

- It was spoken in northwest on Greece and east coast of the Adriatic sea.

3) Indo-Iranian:

- Sanskrit was spoken during 1500 BC.
- Panini who is the great grammarian of 4th century gave a fixed literary form for Sanskrit.
- Pali is the language of Buddhists.
- A dialect of Hindi with a good mixture of Persian and Arabic is known as Hindustani.
4) Iranian:
   - Iranian was spoken in the north-western India.

5) Balto-Slavic:
   - It has its origin in Eastern parts of Europe.

6) Greek or Hellonic:
   - It was spoken in Greece, Aegean and the coast of Asia Minor.
   - Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey were existed in 8th century B.C.
   - The important dialect is Attic (Athens).

7) Latin or Italic:
   - It is the language of Italy.
   - It includes…..
     - Dante’s *Divine comedy*
     - Virgil’s *Aeneid*
     - Petrarch, Boccacio, Cicero (Roman Orator)
   - It is called as Romanic Language.

8) Celtic:
   - The language of the Celts in Gaul is called as Gaelic.

9) Germanic:
   - It is called as *Primitive Germanic or Primitive Teutonic.*
   - It has three divisions.
     1. East Teutonic
     2. North Teutonic
     3. West Teutonic
   - It was spoken in central and Northern Europe from 2000 to 1000 BC.
East Teutonic:
- The principal languages is **Gothic**.
- The earliest work was the Bible Translation by Bishop Ulfilas in 4th Century.

North Teutonic:
- It was found in Scandinavia and Denmark
- Scandinavian is called as **Old Norse**.

West Teutonic:
It is divided into two categories.

1. Low German
2. High German
- Luther’s translation of the Bible was first printed in High German
- The Low German Languages are **Old Saxon, Old Low Franconian, Old Frisian, and Old English**.

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### 1.1 Old English

**Anglo-Saxon (or) Old English: (450-1100 A.D)**
- The original inhabitants of England are **Celts**.
- **Runic scripts** were used.
- The dialect of Anglo–Saxon is South West.
- King Alfred called the general language of England is Englise.
- He used **Wessex Dialect (West Saxon Dialect)**.
- North Germanic tribes **Anglos, Saxons, Jutes** settled in England in 5th Century.
- Long vowels were used
  - (e.g.) **OE** - **ME**
    - Stan - Stone
- It is the **period of full inflexions**.
- Pronunciation has no silent syllable.
The first historian is Venerable Bede and his work is “Ecclesiastical History of English People”.

The important work is of this period is Beowulf (epic).

Changes in old English:

**Gradation:**
- It is called as Ablaut; the term ‘Ablaut’ was first used by Grimm.
- Vowels undergo a change.
- There was a shifting of an accent and a change in the root syllable.

**Mutation:**
- It is called as Umlaut.
- Umlaut means “alteration of sound” in German.
- The change affected certain accented vowels and diphthongs, when they were followed by /i/, /j/. (e.g) myrisz – mice

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### 1.2 Middle English

Middle English: (1066-1500)

- Norman French mixed with Anglo-Saxon is called as Middle English after the Norman Conquest (1066) by William of Normandy.
- This is period of levelled inflexions.
- Many French and Latin words were added to English
- The important dialect is East Midland Dialect in 14\textsuperscript{th} Century.
- London became centre of all activities.
- Oxford and Cambridge Universities were started in 1215.

**Great Vowel Shift:**
- The Great Vowel Shift was a major change in the pronunciation of the English language in Middle English Period.
- It took place in England from 1350 to 1700.
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- It is responsible for many of the peculiarities of English spelling.
- It is related to the simplification of English Spelling.
- It was largely responsible for bringing the pronunciation closes to what we hear now.
- Middle English Long Vowels changed their pronunciation, short vowels remain unchanged.
- The term was coined by Otto Jesperson (1860-1943) a Danish Linguist and Anglicist.

1.3 Modern English

Modern English: (1500 - Present)
- Renaissance:
  - English is enriched by Greet and Latin.
- Reformation:
  - Translation of the Bible
- This is period of loss of inflexions.
- The direct ancestor of modern literary English is the Mercian Dialect.
- The Teutonic Accent was largely responsible for the weakening and loss of inflexions.

Grimm’s Law:
- Grimm’s Law is the consonant sound change in Germanic Languages and Indo-European languages.
- This sound changes in Germanic languages is known as “The First Sound Shifting”
- It was originally discovered by Danish Scholar Rask.
- It was formulated as a law by German Scholar, Jacob Grimm.
- He analysed the change of consonant shift in Germanic languages.
- It is known as ……
  - Great Consonant Shift
  - Great Consonant Shift
  - Germanic Consonant Shift
  - First Consonant Shift
  - First Germanic Sound Shift
  - Rask’s rule
Grimm noticed that a number of Latin words were placed alongside Germanic words.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin</th>
<th>Germanic</th>
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<tr>
<td>p, b, bh</td>
<td>f, p, b</td>
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<td>t, d, dh</td>
<td>g, t, d</td>
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<tr>
<td>t, g, gh</td>
<td>h, k, g</td>
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\( e.g. \) Pater | Father \\
Mater | Mother \\
Ped | Foot

Grimm used the term **Strong Verbs and Weak Verbs**.

Strong Verbs indicate their tense by change of vowel.

\( e.g. \) drive, drove, driven

Weak verbs denote actions derived from other words.

\( e.g. \) Love, Loved, Loved; its actions derived from noun “love”.

### Changes in Consonant Shift

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**Verner’s Law:**

Verner’s Law is that voiceless fricatives in Germanic became voiced, if the proceeding syllable was unstressed.

It is the study of change of consonant shift.
It was formulated by Danish Linguist, Karl Verner.

He found some exceptions in Grimm’s Law in 1875.

He explained the exception by the principle of accent.

The stress fell on middle and final syllable in early Germanic.

The stress fell on the first syllable in later Germanic.

According to Grimm’s Law…….

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<th>Latin</th>
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It is not agreed with centum-hundred.

The past tense form of many strong verbs is explained using “Verner’s Law”

Verner’s Law predicts English Accent in words.

Centum → hundred

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Standard English:

English of the southern upper class people of England became the Standard English.

Normans brought Latin, French, Latinised French.

They infused them into English that was East Midland Dialect.

East Midland Dialect is called as London Dialect, Queen’s Tongue or Queens English.

London………

was situated in the South East England.

became the capital of the Country.

became the centre of trade and commerce for the entire world.

became the academic centre of England by establishing Oxford, Cambridge universities and numerous public schools.
East Midland Dialect was soft and easy for pronunciation.
Caxton used East Midland Dialect in his printing press (1476).
Chaucer wrote poem in East Midland Dialect.
“With Chaucer modern English poetry was born” - Arnold
In 1589, Puttenham favoured the East Midland Dialect for his “Art of English Poesie”.
East Midland Dialect became famous because ...........
- The Authorised Version of the Bible (1611)
- The Royal Society (1662)
Dryden, Pope, Dr. Johnson coined in syntax, vocabulary and pronunciation in 18th century.
Dr. Johnson’s Dictionary (1755) fixes English spelling and pronunciation and brought out a Standard English.
Ruskin and Tennyson gave pure English in 19th century.
Scientific inventions unified the language in 20th century.
English language grows and attains uniformity in grammar, spelling and pronunciation known as Standard English.
Society for Pure English issued pamphlets periodically propagating a standard English
Received Pronunciation is the standard pronunciation.
- Speech of South East England.
BBC was set up in 1922 in London.
“To mention the subject of standard English is almost inventibly. Those who disapprove of the idea of a standard language point out that such a language is theoretical rather than real” - F.T.Wood
“The standard English language is one that afford room for growth” – F.T.Wood
“The standard English is that which was a spoken within certain social boundaries with an extraordinary degree of uniformity all over the country” – H.C.Wyld.
Standard English is that most usually heard in everyday speech in the families of southern England whose menfolk have been educated at the great public schools” – Daniel Jones.
1. Family of Indo European Languages

1) The family of indo-European languages has ________ major groups.
   
   A) 2  
   B) 4  
   C) 7  
   D) 9

2) Who is 4th century BCE Indian grammarian, wrote a formal description of the Sanskrit language?
   
   A) Bhartrhari  
   B) Panini  
   C) Pingala  
   D) Vararchi

3) What is the principal language of East Teutonic?
   
   A) Gothic  
   B) Scandinavian  
   C) Danish  
   D) Old Norse

4) English belongs to the ________
   
   A) East Teutonic  
   B) West Teutonic  
   C) North Teutonic  
   D) South Teutonic

5) Which of the languages is not under group of Centum in Indo-European Family?
   
   A) Greek  
   B) Latin  
   C) Indian  
   D) Primitive Teutonic
6) Which of the languages is not under group of Satem in Indo-European Family?
   A) Armenian
   B) Albanian
   C) Indian
   D) Celtic

7) Which period is called as period of full inflexions?
   A) Ancient Period
   B) Old English Period
   C) Middle English Period
   D) Modern Period

8) What is the time span of Middle English period?
   A) 0 to 450
   B) 450 to 1100
   C) 1066 to 1500
   D) 1500 to present

9) What is an important dialect in Middle English period?
   A) Wessex Dialect
   B) East Midland Dialect
   C) West Midland Dialect
   D) North East Dialect

10) The Great Vowel Shift was a major change in the pronunciation of the English language in
    A) Old English Period
    B) Middle English Period
    C) Modern Period
    D) Post Modern Period
11) Grimm’s Law is the consonant sound change which was originally discovered by

A) Rask  
B) Verner  
C) Harald  
D) Halliday

12) Grimm’s Law is also known as _______

A) Great Consonant Shift  
B) Great Vowel Shift  
C) Great Diphthong Shift  
D) Verner’s Law

13) According to ___________ Law is that voiceless fricatives in Germanic became voiced, if the proceeding syllable was unstressed.

A) Verner’s  
B) Grimm’s  
C) Saussure’s  
D) Jakobson’s

14) The change which took place in old English is called as ___________

A) gradation  
B) mutation  
C) Both ‘A’ and ‘B’  
D) Standard English

15) The history of the English language begins with the setting of Germanic tribes in British.

A) Angles, Saxons, Jutes  
B) Albani, Saxons, Deuri  
C) Autariates, Bylliones, Cavii  
D) Ariaei, Daorsi, Deuri

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16) Mutation is called as ____________
   A) Ablaut
   B) Gradation
   C) Apophony
   D) Umlaut

17) The term ‘Great Vowel Shift’ was coined by __________
   A) Otto Jesperson
   B) Kenneth Jackson
   C) Roman Jakobson
   D) Gunnar Jarring

18) Modern period is known as ____________
   A) period of full inflexions
   B) period of leveled inflexions
   C) period of loss of inflexions
   D) period of West Saxon Dialect

19) Who says, “The standard English is that which was a spoken within certain social boundaries with an extraordinary degree of uniformity all over the country”?
   A) Daniel Jones
   B) H.C.Wyld
   C) Rask
   D) Verner

20) Who said, “Standard English is that most usually heard in everyday speech in the families of southern England whose menfolk have been educated at the great public schools”?
   A) Daniel Jones
   B) H.C.Wyld
   C) Rask
   D) Verner
21) Dr. Johnson’s Dictionary fixes English spelling and pronunciation and brought out a Standard English which was published in ________
   A) 1745
   B) 1755
   C) 1766
   D) 1756

22) BBC was set up in ________ in London.
   A) 1920
   B) 1921
   C) 1922
   D) 1923

23) The Authorised Version of the Bible was published in ________
   A) 1611
   B) 1612
   C) 1613
   D) 1614

24) English of the southern upper class people of England became the ________
   A) Local Dialect
   B) Standard English
   C) American English
   D) Indian English

25) Who used the term Strong Verbs and Weak Verbs?
   A) Grimm
   B) H.C. Wyld
   C) Rask
   D) Verner