

**SYLLABUS FOR WRITTEN TEST/VIVA FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF  
LANGUAGE OFFICER (LO) UNDER THE DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH,  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH, ITANAGAR**

**SUBJECT: LINGUISTIC**

**Unit-1: Language and Linguistics**

*(a) Nature of Language:* Language in spoken and written modes, language as written text—philological and literary notions i.e., norm, purity and their preservation; language as a cultural heritage—codification and transmission of cultural knowledge and behaviour; language as a marker of social identity; language as an object i.e., notion of autonomy, structure and its units and components; design Features of language; writing system—units of writing—sound (alphabetic), or syllable (syllabic) and morpheme/word (logographic), sign language; existence of language faculty; linguistic competence, ideal speaker-hearer.

*(b) Approaches to the Study of Language:* Ancient approaches to the study of language: Indian and Greco-Roman, semiotic approach—interpretation of sign; language as a system of social behaviour—use of language in family, community and country; language as a system of communication—communicative functions—emotive, conative, referential, poetic, metalinguistic and phatic; language as a cognitive system; relation with culture and thought (Linguistic Relativity); Saussurean dichotomies: signifier and signified, langue and parole, synchronic and diachronic, syntagmatic and paradigmatic.

*(c) Linguistics and other Fields:* Relevance of Linguistics to other fields of enquiry—Philosophy, Anthropology, Sociology, Neurology, Speech Sciences, Geography, Psychology, Education, Computer Science and Literature.

## **Unit 2. Phonetics and Phonology**

### ***Phonetics***

Phonetics as a study of speech sounds: articulatory, auditory, and acoustic phonetics.

- (a) ***Articulatory Phonetics***: Processes of speech production: airstream process, oro-nasal process, phonation process, and articulatory process; classification of speech sounds: vowels and consonants, cardinal vowels (primary and secondary); complex articulation: secondary articulation, co-articulation; syllable; suprasegmentals—length, stress, tone, intonation and juncture; phonetic transcription: International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).
- (b)
- (c) ***Acoustic Phonetics***: Sound waves— simple and complex, periodic and aperiodic; harmonics; frequency and fundamental frequency, amplitude, duration; resonance, filters, spectrum, spectrogram; formants, transition, burst; voice onset time; aspiration; noise spectra; cues for speech sounds: vowel (monophthong and diphthong), semivowel, stop, fricative, nasal, lateral, glide, places of articulation of consonants.

### ***Phonology***

- (a) ***Descriptive Phonology***: Phonetics vs. phonology; concept of phoneme, phone and allophone; principles of phonemic analysis— phonetic similarity, contrastive distribution, complementary distribution, free variation, pattern congruity; notions of biuniqueness, neutralization and archiphoneme.
- (b) ***Generative Phonology***: Linear and non-linear approaches: levels of phonological representation; phonological rules; distinctive features (major class, manner, place, etc.); abstractness controversy; rule ordering and types of rule ordering, markedness; principles of lexical phonology; principles of optimality theory.

### Unit 3.Morphology

- (a) **Basic Concepts:** Scope and nature of morphology; concepts of morpheme, morph, allomorph, zero allomorph, conditions on allomorphs; lexeme and word; Types of morphemes—free and bound; root, stem, base, suffix, infix, prefix, portmanteau morpheme, suppletive, replative; affixes vs. clitics; grammatical categories – tense, aspect, mood, person, gender, number, case; case markers and 4 case relations; pre- and post-positions; models of morphological description: item and arrangement, item and process, word and paradigm;
- (b) **Morphological Analysis:** Identification of morphemes; morphological alternation; morphophonemic processes; internal and external sandhi; inflection vs. derivation; conjugation and declension.
- (c) **Word-Formation Processes:** Derivation (primary vs. secondary derivation, nominalization, verbalization, etc.), compounding (types of compounds: endocentric, exocentric, etc.), reduplication, back-formation, conversion, clipping, blending, acronyms, folk etymology, creativity and productivity, blocking, bracketing paradoxes, constraints on affix ordering.

### Unit 4.Syntax

- (a) **Traditional and Structural Syntax:** parts of speech: Indian classification (naama, aakhyaata, upasarga, nipaata); basic syntactic units and their types: word, phrase, clause, sentence, karaka relations; grammatical relations and case relations; construction types (exocentric, endocentric, etc.), immediate constituent analysis.
- (b) **Generative Syntax:** Parameters and universal grammar, null subject parameter, innateness hypothesis, meaning of the term 'generative', 5 transformational generative grammar, structure and structuredependence, diagnostics for structure; complements and adjuncts, principles and parameters theory, X-bar theory, theta theory, binding theory; pro-drop, NP-movement, wh-movement, head movement, adjunction and substitution, constraints on movement, subadjacency, government and proper government, small clauses,



topicalization; unergatives and unaccusatives, VP-internal subject hypothesis; split VP and VP-shell hypothesis, cross-over phenomena; checking theory of case, copy theory of movement, inclusiveness principle.

## **Unit 5.Semantics and Pragmatics**

- (a) **Semantics: Types of meaning**; descriptive, emotive and phatic; sense and reference, connotation and denotation, sense relations (homonymy, hyponymy, antonymy, synonymy, etc.); types of opposition (taxonomic, polar, etc.); ambiguity, sentence meaning and truth conditions, contradictions, entailment; 'abhidha', 'laksana', 'vyanjana'; Notions of membership, union, intersection, 6 cardinality; mapping and functions; propositions, truth values, sentential connectives; arguments, predicates, quantifiers, variables; componential analysis; definiteness, mood and modality, specific vs. generic; definite and indefinite; compositionality and its limitations.
- (b) **Pragmatics**: Language use in context; communication: message model and inferential model of communication, sentence meaning and utterance meaning; speech acts; deixis; presupposition and implicature: Gricean maxims; information structure; indexicals, politeness, power and solidarity, discourse analysis.

## **Unit 6; Sociolinguistics**

- (a) **Basic Concepts**: Sociolinguistics and sociology of language; micro-and macro approaches to language in society; linguistic repertoire: language, dialect, sociolect, idiolect; diglossia, taboo, slang; elaborated and restricted codes; speech community, communicative competence, ethnography of speaking; language of 8 wider communication; lingua franca; language and social inequality; language in diaspora; new linguistic world orders.
- (b) **Linguistic Variability**: Patterns in linguistic variation, linguistic variables and their co-variation with linguistic dimensions, social class / social network / age / gender/ ethnicity; language loyalty, social identity and social attitudes, stereotypes.

(C) **Language Contact:** Bilingualism, multilingualism; code-mixing and codeswitching; outcomes of language contact: language maintenance, borrowing, convergence, substratum effect, pidginization and creolization; language loss.

(d) **Language Development:** Language planning, corpus and status planning, standardisation and modernisation; language movements – state and societal interventions; script development and modifications; linguistic minorities and their problems.

(e) **Language Ecology and Endangerment:** Super diversity; linguistic landscaping, linguistic vitality, language endangerment, parameters of endangerment, documentation of endangered languages, revitalisation.

(f) **Sociolinguistic Methodology:** Sampling and tools; identification of sociolinguistic variables and their variants; data processing and interpretation; quantitative analysis of data; variable rules; ethnomethodology; participant observation

## **Unit 7. Interdisciplinary and Applied Linguistics—II (Translation, Lexicography, Computational Linguistics, Stylistics, Language and Media)**

### **Translation**

Paraphrase, translation and transcreation; translation of literary text and technical text; use of linguistics in translation; linguistic affinity and translatability; untranslatability; units of translation; equivalence of meaning and style; translation loss and gain; problems of cultural terms; scientific terms; idioms, metaphors and proverbs; false friends and translation shifts; evaluation of 12 translation; fidelity and readability; types of translation—simultaneous interpretation, machine aided translation, media translation (dubbing, copyediting, advertisement, slogans, jingles, etc.)

### **Lexicography**

(a) **Making of a Dictionary:** Linguistics and lexicography, dictionary entries— arrangement of information; meaning descriptions—synonymy, polysemy, homonymy, antonymy and hyponymy; treatment of technical terms vs. general words.

(b) **Types of Dictionaries:** Literary, scientific and technical; comprehensive and concise, monolingual and bilingual; general and learner's. historical and etymological, dictionary



of idioms and phrases, encyclopaedic dictionary, electronic dictionary, reverse dictionary, thesaurus and other distinguishing purposes and features of various types; computational lexicography.

## **Unit 8. Historical Linguistics**

- (a) **Sound Change:** Neogrammarian laws of phonetic change: Grimm's, Verner's, Grassmann's Laws; genesis and spread of sound change; split and merger; conditioned vs. unconditioned change; types of changes—phonetic vs. phonemic changes; assimilation and dissimilation, coalescence, metathesis, deletion, epenthesis; lexical diffusion of sound change; analogy and its relationship to sound change; reconstructing the proto-stages of languages; tree and wave models; relative chronology of different changes. Sociolinguistic approach to language change: social motivation of language change; study of sound change in progress.
- (b) **Language Contact and Dialect Geography:** Linguistic borrowing, lexical and structural; motivations, loan translation, loan blend, calque, assimilated and unassimilated loans: *tadbhava* and *tatsama*; different types of borrowing-- cultural, intimate and dialect; classification of loanwords; impact of borrowing on language; pidgins and creoles; bilingualism as the source for borrowing; dialect geography: dialect atlas; isogloss; focal area, transition area and relic area.

## **Unit -9 Language Learning and Language Teaching:**

**Language Teaching and Language Learning:** First and second language learning; behaviouristic and cognitive theories of language learning; social and psychological aspects of second language acquisition; methods of language teaching; materials and teaching-aids in language teaching; computer assisted language teaching (CALT); language testing: types of tests; validity, reliability and standardization of tests; Inter-language.

**Language Teaching Analysis:** Goals of language teaching; factors in the preparation of a language teaching syllabus: linguistic theory, social and psychological factors, needs analysis, class-room presentation; text-book evaluation; types of syllabus: structural, communicative, notional; the role of the teacher and teacher training; role of self-access packages; socio-linguistic and psychological aspects of language teaching and learning.

## **Unit 8. Areal Typology and South Asian Language Families**

***Salient Features of South Asian Languages:*** Phonetic, phonological, morphological, and syntactic features of Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, AustroAsiatic, and Tibeto-Burman language families of South Asia; Linguistic Survey of India as a source of information; contact induced typological change; convergence and syntactic change. India as a

***Linguistic Area:*** The notion of linguistic area; language contact and convergence with special reference to the concept of 'India as a Linguistic Area'; features of retroflexion, vowel harmony, aspiration, reduplication, echo formation, onomatopoeia, explicator 10 compound verbs, anaphora; India as a sociolinguistic area, India as a semantic area; notion of microlinguistic area