

HW 3 – LIN 510

Due 13 November 2012

Depending on your interests, answer THREE of the below questions. We haven't covered all the topics but you can read the textbook sections I indicate if you are interested in answering those. (There is no Question 4).

Question 1

Classification

Mohawk has sentences as in (1). What can you say about the type of language it is (see pp. 310-311). Does it have the usual set of vowels, or can't you tell? How about the consonants?

- (1) Kanerahatenhawi Nicholas, speaker
MOHAWK WORD
wa'tionkwatonhontsahrhten
wa'-t-ionkw-at-onhonts-hri-ht-en-
FACTUAL-CHANGE-OF-STATE-they/me-(my).own-earth-broken-cause-for-PERFECTIVE-ASPECT
'they caused my earth to be broken up for me' = 'they plowed my garden'

(sentence from Mithun 1999: 11)

Question 2

Historical linguistics

Please pair each word in Column A with its older meaning in Column B. (Check the OED if unsure). For instance, deer used to mean 'animal' in Old English.

A	B
coin	wedge/corner
nerve	gory/bloody/cruel
sky	sinew
skill	cloud
sincere	reason in the mind
pretty	true/correct
dreary	cunning/crafty

Then say if the meaning have narrowed or widened, etc (see pp. 272)

Question 3

L1 Acquisition

The following transcriptions represent the speech of a 2.5 year old child. Indicate which of the morphemes listed in Table 10.12 Jordie has acquired and which he has not? Can you also see in what syntactic stage he is; see 371ff.

Jordie's utterance	Intended meaning
a) Where my blanket?	Where's my blanket?
b) Go right here, Mommy?	Does it go right here, Mommy?
c) Running over.	It's running over.
d) Here, go here.	Here, it goes here.
e) No, that mine.	No, that's mine.
f) Dinosaur say gronk.	Dinosaurs say gronk.
g) There more.	There's more.

Question 5

L2 Acquisition

Analyze the interlanguage characteristics in the first three paragraphs of p. 428. Use pages 409-412. Write about half a page and focus on one or two patterns.

Question 6

Neurolinguistics

Do Question 3 on p. 484.

Question 7

Sociolinguistics

Identify some linguistic features (as on pp. 506 and 509) in Jean Binta's 'get flat'.

get flat
Wen storm come 5
yuh bawl
'get flat'
an watch mountain
rub a dub
troo de sea 10
from Brixton
to Elleston Flats
yuh can see de wukkin riddim
ben de people dem back
'haad wuk kean kill yuh, son'
but Manson 15
kar im boson
gawn a boneyard
im sey a wouldn see im
wen a reach back home
an Aunt May gi mi a letta 20
to de relative a Englan, sey
time harder
dan weh did mek yuh lef
time hard
an yuh people dem a fret 25
de relative reply
a nuh forget we forget
but yah so nuh no betta
a me three pickney nah wuk
two side a de ocean 30
de laughline sink
like de mercury
prior to de storm
two side a de ocean
de riddim jus a bawl
'get flat, everybady get flat' 35
an ah see a whole sea
a ben back