Ling. 2301 (Section 003)  
Review Sheet for the First Exam  

Date of the Exam:  Thursday, February 7, 2008

Content:  Lectures and readings from days 1 – 7 of the course syllabus

Format:  A timed (75-minute), closed-book examination with three question formats

1. **Terminology (either Fill-in-the-Blank or Statement Repair)**  
   a) You will be given a list of definitions with a part missing; your job is to choose the best word or phrase from our lectures to complete the given statement.

   Example:  This course is ENGL 4500.  
   [Your answer: LING 2301]

2. **Short Answer (Definitions, People, Concepts, Examples)**  
   You may have to provide a list of different examples of a particular topic (e.g., List four of the design features of human language) or provide an example and explanation of a course concept (e.g., Give an example of a prescriptive rule of English and who would endorse it).

3. **Showing Structural Knowledge**  
   You will need to draw a tree for a given word or sentence of English.  (For a syntactic tree, you’ll be given the phrase structure rules to go with it.)

Here is a list of terms and concepts to review as you check your notes and prepare for the exam.  The items given below are listed in the approximate order in which they have appeared in the course.  Please be advised that simply memorizing definitions of the terms is not likely to be sufficient preparation for the exam; one way to prepare for fuller understanding of the significance of key course concepts is to be able to provide and recognize relevant examples of these concepts.

**Day 1: Introduction to Linguistics**  
(small-l) language vs. (“big-L”) Language, linguistics and the components of language it studies: phonetics, morphology, semantics, syntax; how do nonsense words show these parts in action? Can we directly access knowledge about “big-L” language? Explain…

**Day 2: Properties of Human Language**  
modality (form), semanticity (meaning), functionality (purpose), sign, signifier, signified, icon, index, symptom, arbitrariness, duality, discreteness, productivity (creativity), displacement, stimulus-bound, cultural transmission, genetic transmission, interchangeability

**Day 3: Linguistic Structure—Morphology**  
free, bound, derivational, inflectional, morpheme, allomorph, structural ambiguity; showing the order in which morphemes go together by drawing a tree

**Day 4: The Nature of Grammar**  
Rule governed creativity, grammar/grammatical, prescriptively grammatical, descriptively grammatical, semantically odd, ambiguity (lexical & structural), synonymy (lexical & syntactic), paraphrase

What makes language “good” in the eyes of the experts?  
How does prescriptive differ from descriptive?  Which is “right”?
Day 5: Linguistic Structure—Syntax
Phrase structure rules and trees provide ways to show what we know about the ways words work together as constituents of a sentence; lexical categories, phrasal categories, structural ambiguity

Day 6: Structural Possibilities—Universals and Typology
linguistic universals, linguistic typology, examples of universals, three views of linguistic diversity: monogenesis, polygenesis, single-survivor, universal grammar, principles & parameters, word structure typology: isolating, inflecting, agglutinative, word order typology: SVO, etc.,

Of the six possible word orders, which three are most common?
What do these three orders share? --Think of the relative positions of S and O. What does the study of universals and typology tell us about “big-L” Language?

Day 7: Knowledge as Language—Language, Thought, and Reality
The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, linguistic determinism, linguistic relativity
[Be familiar with the basic themes of chapters 34 and 35.]

Does language = thought? Why not?
Can you give an example of thought that is nonlinguistic?

General Info

Who were the following people, what ideas did they contribute, and what stands did they take?

Noam Chomsky
Charles Hockett
Genine Lentine & Roger Shuy
Steven Pinker
Edward Sapir & Benjamin Lee Whorf

Study Tips

What can you do to enhance your chances of mastering the course materials? Take advantage of all available resources to help you learn:

* the textbook
  (Including the questions at the end of the chapters and the glossary and indexes in the back!)
* the web links
  Readings are linked on this page:
  http://ling.uta.edu/~laurel/2301_schedule_spring_08.html
* class lectures, discussions, and exercises
* any handouts from class
* the two first quizzes
* the professor
  Laurel Stvan <stvan@uta.edu>
* your classmates