Mohammed Khider University of Biskra

Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages

Department of Foreign Languages

Division of English

Class: Master I

Option: Sciences of Language

Course: Language Mastery

Teacher: Dr. Meddour Mostefa

**Language Mastery: Syllabus**

1. **Course description**

Mastery of Language course is designed for master’s graduates of English. Its ultimate objective is to reinforce students’ level of academic proficiency with special emphasis on the advanced formal aspects of language use. The course is divided into two semesters in which students are exposed to a wide range of advanced language structures and functions intended to help students improve their grammar and lexis in both spoken and written contexts. Therefore, it stresses language practice to eventually achieve a substantial level language usage, vocabulary reception and production needed for both spoken and written communication. Moreover, it helps students to explore variety of communicative contexts related to critical reading, public speaking, academic correspondence and writing book review. Mastery of Language is a prerequisite course for students to prepare and pursue Master’s academic studies.

1. **Course objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

* Locate unfamiliar vocabulary in its context using contextual clues.
* Communicate their spoken and written ideas using advanced lexis on a variety of topics.
* Use properly formulaic language, including phrasal verbs, idioms and collocations
* Read critically long texts using certain reading strategies.
* Prepare a public speech and make a persuasive presentation at ease using discourse strategies, including arguments and counter arguments.
* Write some basic academic and business correspondence (personal statements, motivation letters, cover letters, etc)
* Write and give an oral presentation on a book review related to their discipline

1. **Course outline**

**SEMESTER I**

**REFERENCES**

1. Nist, S. L. & Mohr, C. (2002). Advancing vocabulary skills. 3rd Ed. Georgia. USA. Twnsend Press
2. McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English vocabulary in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press.
3. McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English idioms in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press.
4. McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2008). English collocations in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press.
5. Workman, G. (1993). Phrasal verbs and idioms: Upper-Intermediate. Oxford. Oxford University Press
6. Hurford, J. R., Heasley, B. & Smith, M. B. (2007). Semantics: a coursebook. 2nd Ed. Cambridge. CUP.
7. Marsavs, H. (1999). English for Intermediate students. …..

**LECTURE 1:** VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

1. The importance of vocabulary development for advanced learners

* Integrative part in other skills (reading, listening, speaking and writing)
* A vehicle of transporting ideas and messages
* Basic part in tests
* A key to successful educational career

1. Context clues

* Examples
* Antonyms
* Synonyms
* General sense of the text

**LECTURE 2:** VOCABULARY LEARNING: TYPES OF MEANING

* Polysemy (multiple meanings)
* Synonymy
* Metaphor
* Register
* Connotations

**LECTURE 3:** FORMULAIC LANGUAGE

1. Idioms

* Form and use
* Common metaphors in idioms

1. Phrasal verbs

* Multi-word verbs
* Literal and non-literal meaning
* Particles
* Four basic types of phrasal verbs

1. Collocations

* Importance of learning collocations
* Strong, fixed and weak collocations
* Grammatical categories of collocations
* Intensifying and softening adverbs

**LECTURE 4:** WORD FORMATION

* Prefixes
* Suffixes
* Word building and word blending

**TUTORIALS (TDS)**

* **TD1. words in context:** detriment, dexterous, discretion, facetious, gregarious, optimum, ostentatious, scrupulous, sensory, vicarious

**Ref:** Nist, S. L. & Mohr, C. (2002). Advancing vocabulary skills. 3rd Ed. Georgia. USA. Twnsend Press. Unit 01 (pp. 8-11)

* **TD2.** 1. **Types of meaning** (polysemy, metaphore)

**Ref:**

* McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English vocabulary in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. (pp. 14, 15)
* Hurford, J. R., Heasley, B. & Smith, M. B. (2007). Semantics: a coursebook. 2nd Ed. Cambridge. CUP
* Marsavs, H. (1999). English for Intermediate students. (pp. 37-38)

2. **Types of meaning** (Register, connotations)

**Ref:**

McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English vocabulary in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. (p. 16

* **TD3.** **Idioms**
* put a foot in sth, took a shine, flash in the pan, as quiet as a mouse, safe and sound,
* go up in the world, knock into shape, prick up your ears, a debt of hounor, lick your wounds, run its course
* common metaphors in idioms (work=war, understanding=seeing, emotion=colour, life=a jouney. Life=a gumble)

**Ref:** McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English Idioms in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. (pp. 7, 9, 13)

* **TD4. Phrasal verbs**
* Literal and non literal meaning
* Transitive and intransitive
* Separable and inseparable

**Ref:** Workman, G. (1993). Phrasal verbs and idioms: Upper-Intermediate. Oxford. Oxford University Press ( Unit 6. pp. 38-42)

* **TD5. Collocations**

**Ref:** McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2008). English collocations in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. (pp. 7, 9, 21 /Unit 17+ 18. pp. 38-41)

* **TD6.** **Creating new meanings**
* prefixes: over, under, up, across/ con, com, e-, a(d), pro
* suffixes: able, conscious, free, rich, led, minded, ridden, proof, related, worthy
* word-building and word blending

**Ref:** McCarthy, M., & O’dell, F. (2002). English vocabulary in use: Advanced. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press. (pp. 23, 25, 27)

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**SEMESTER II**

**REFRENCES**

1. Mikulecky, B. S. & Jeffries, L. (2007). Advanced Reading Power. New York. Pearson Education
2. Chesla, E. (2000). Read better, remember more. 2nd Ed. New York. Learning express
3. Walch, S. (2003). Public speaking workbook. Jumsoft Team
4. Nordquist, R. (2018). The art of public speaking. Retrieved 8/11/2018 from <https://www.thoughtco.com/public-speaking-rhetoric-communication-1691552?print>
5. Coopman, S. J, & Lull, J. (2012). Public speaking: the evolving art. 2nd Ed. Boston, USA. Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
6. Buckley, E. A. (…). How to write better business letters……….
7. McGee, P. (2007). How to write a great CV. Oxford, UK. Howtobooks. Ltd
8. Office of career services (2017). Resumes and cover letters for Master’s students. Harvard. Harvard University
9. Swales, J. M. & Feak, C. B. (1994). *Academic writing for graduate students: essential tasks and skills. A course for nonnative speakers of English*. Michigan. Michigan University Press

**LECTURE 01:** ADVANCED READING

* Reading strategies
* Getting ready to read
* Engaging in reading
* Reacting to reading
* Active and Critical reading

**LECTURE 02:** PERSUASIVE PUBLIC SPEAKING

* Determine your purpose and topic
* Understanding your audience
* Organizing your ideas
* Practicing and presenting your speech
* Features of an effective public speech (language and style)

**LECTURE 04:** ACADEMIC ANDBUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE

* Writing personal statements
* Motivation letter and Cover letters

**LECTURE 05:** WRITING A BOOK REVIEW

* Introduction
* Summary of content
* Analysis and evaluation
* Conclusion