MOHAMED KHEIDER | Department of Letters and Foreign Languages

First-semester Achievement Test [ANSWER KEYS]

dated Tuesday March 9th, 2021

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Lecturer at the Section of English. University of Biskra.	Level: 3rd year Time: 1 hour	Based on student's answers and language accuracy.

Full Name:_____/_____ **Group:**_____/_____

Instructions: Be precise and concise | clear handwriting | Do not exceed the answering lines

Part One: Just remind it!   Out of: 8 pts

Activity One: Provide words/phrases to these definitions.   Each answer is worth 1pt

1. Code Switching: It is the ability to compensate a weakness in one language by using another language at the same time when speaking.

2. Micro-sociolinguistics: It studies the context of language to know more about language. It focuses on language.

3. Loan-translation.: it occurs when using an item-for-item native version of an original word in another one.

4. Isogloss: It is a boundary line on a linguistic map making a linguistic feature which occurs frequently in one dialect and which is distinctive from adjacent dialect.

Activity Two: Decide whether these statements are **True** or **False**.   Each answer is worth 1pt

1. Competence is about knowing the language; whereas, performance involves doing something with the language. True

2. Modern linguistics is descriptive; whereas, traditional grammar is prescriptive. True

3. Parole represents the work of collectivity. False

4. Chomsky's competence includes not only implicit and explicit rules of grammar but also knowledge of the rules of language use. False

Activity One: Fill in the gaps.   Each answer is worth 1pt

In sociolinguistics, ………1……. is a situation in which two distinct ……2…… of language are spoken within the same community that show a clear separation between the two; that is, one code is employed in one set of circumstances, and the other in an entirely different set. One is said to be a ………3……… and the other is the ……4…...

1	2	3	4
Diglossia	Varieties/Codes	High Variety	Low Variety

Part Three: In-depth!   **Out of: 8 pts**

Activity: Read these statements and provide your explanations:

Statement One: "Sociolinguistics was dissatisfied with Chomsky's competence." -**Explain**
The main assumptions to display are:
- The fact that Formal Linguistics, including Chomsky's competence, studied language as a closed/frozen system urged linguists to react against this linguistic orientation, claiming that asocial linguistics is essentially incomplete.
- This simply means that the linguistic system is not self-contained and is highly autonomous from external factors, but is still shaped by them. Therefore, an adequate theory of language must also take the use of language into consideration.
- Interest in the social dimension of language has given rise to sociolinguistics.

Statement Two: "A language is a dialect with a navy and an army." –**Explain**
The main assumptions to mention are:
- What is termed now "language" was at a point in time no more than a dialect. Building on this reality, it is recognised that what is now a "language" is largely reserved to a "standard" variety of another language.
- It is now obvious for linguists that the status of any "dialect" is determined by the historical, political, and social power it has. This can be realised through standardisation.
- Standardisation is the process by which a dialect becomes a fully-fledged language.

On top of the above assumptions, the quality of language is also gauged. Quality stands for compositions that are:
- Coherent.
- Free from grammatical errors.
- Free from spelling mistakes.