

## **Theme One.**

### **Class discussion.**

**A/. Based on what you have read and your prior knowledge discuss the following questions.**

1. What do you take to be the most important features of Saussurean Structuralism?
2. What are the major attributions of De Saussure to the field of linguistics?
3. What does it mean to say that the link between signifier and signified is arbitrary? Provide examples.
4. Distinguish clearly between 'structuralism 'in its more general sense and in the sense in which it is opposed to Generativism?
5. "Structuralism is based, in the first instance, on the realization that if human actions or productions have a meaning there must be an underlying system of conventions which make this meaning possible "Discuss.
6. How did Chomsky draw the DEEP/SURFACE structure distinction?
7. Why does Chomsky attach so much importance to the notion of formal universals?
8. "There is far less difference between Bloomfield's and Chomsky's views of the nature and scope of linguistics than one might expect "(p. 231). Discuss.

### **Homework.**

### **Evaluation criteria.**