

Midterm Exam for Asian 30

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92 / 100

Discussion Section: 1D

1. Language identification: Insert the letter, (a-g), that corresponds to the sound you hear. (0.5x8=4)

- X (a) Japanese X (b) Korean X (c) Mandarin (d) Cantonese X(e) Vietnamese
 (f) Indonesian (g) Tagalog/Filipino (h) Thai

1	C	2	B	3	F	4	D	5	A
6	H	7	E	8	G				

2. Where are the following languages spoken as a national/official language? You may use a same word more than once. (1x7=7)

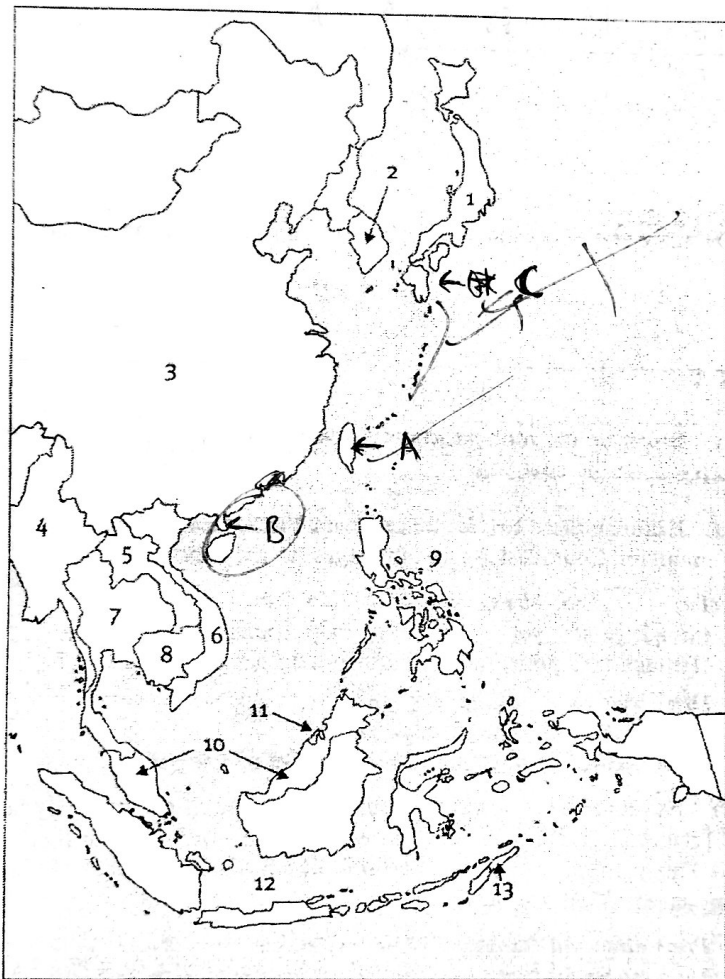
a) Khmer	Cambodia ✓
b) Bahasa Melayu	Malaysia; Brunei, Singapore ✓
c) Tetum	East Timor ✓
d) Bahasa Indonesia	Indonesia ✓
e) Filipino (Pilipino)/Tagalog	Philippines ✓
f) Portuguese	East Timor ✓
g) Burmese	Myanmar ✓

3. MAP 1x16= 16 pts

(a) Identify the name of the countries/areas shown on the map, 1-13.

(b) On the map below indicate where (A) Taiwan, (B) Hong Kong, and (C) Ryukyu/Okinawa are located.

1 Japan	2 South Korea	3 China	4 Myanmar	5 Laos
6 Vietnam	7 Thailand	8 Cambodia	9 Philippines	10 Malaysia
11 Brunei	12 Indonesia	13 East Timor		



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2 (2)

4. Choose the most appropriate words to complete each statement. Insert the appropriate letter (a,b, or c) in the boxes provided below. (1x17 = 17pts)

1 B	2 A	3 C	4 A	5 B	6 B	7 B	8 C	9 B
10 C	11 A	12 A	13 B	14 C A	15 C	16 C	17 A	-----

- 1) Japanese and Korean are both [(a) isolating (b) agglutinating (c) fusional] languages.
- 2) [(a) Contour (b) Register (c) Mid] tones are those that change pitch as the word is being pronounced.
- 3) [(a) Tai-Kadai (b) Austronesian (c) Hmong-Mien,] is the only language family whose member is not used as a national or official language
- 4) Ainu is considered a [(a) language isolate (b) Tibeto-Burman language (c) Austronesian language]
- 5) Progressive is one type of [(a) perfective (b) imperfective (c) prototype] aspect.
- 6) In some languages [(a) tight serializations (b) repeater constructions (c) verb-prepositions] are used when no specific classifiers are available.
- 7) Because language purification adopted in [(a) Taiwan (b) North Korea (c) South Korea,], their language contains fewer loan words.
- 8) In the basic sentence of [(a) Korean (b) Vietnamese (c) Tagalog], verb comes before subject.
- ✕ 9) The pronominal system in [(a) Thai (b) English (c) Indonesian] shows horizontal human relations in the society.
- 10) Tagalog uses many English and [(a) Cantonese (b) Portuguese (c) Spanish] words.
- 11) [(a) Polysemy (b) Clipping (c) Blending] is a situation where two or more related meanings exist for a word.
- 12) [(a) Attenuation (b) Ambiguity (c) Ellipsis] is one of the three main functions of reduplications in language.
- 13) The Indonesian word, *buat*, in '*dia buat apa*' is [(a) imperfective (b) ambiguous (c) perfective] because it may be interpreted in two different ways
- ✕ 14) [(a) Classifiers (b) Measure words (c) Reduplication] is/are found in most languages.
- ✕ 15) [(a) Aspect (b) Tense (c) Psycho-collocation] is one of the areal features in Asian languages
- 16) [(a) Arabic (b) Tamil (c) Sanskrit] loanwords in Indonesian and Malaysian have been indigenized.
- 17) In the following Korean sentence, 'jumusi' is a(n) [(a) honorific (b) present (c) perfect] verb form.

Abeonim-i jumusi-n-da
 Father-SUBJ sleep-PRES-DECL
 'My father is sleeping.'



5. Examine the following table, and answer the questions. (26 pts)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
cat	māo	māo	mεEW	mèo	mayu	neko
horse	mǎ	mǎ	máa	ngưa/mã	wumma	uma
dog	gǒu	gǒu	mǎa	chó	in	inu

a) Which word among 'cat,' 'horse,' and 'dog' support a hypothesis that all six languages may be genetically related? Discuss your answer. (6 pts)

The word 'horse' best supports a hypothesis that all six languages may be related, as in all languages the word features 'ma' in some way; they are all phonologically similar. With 'cat', F is quite different; with 'dog', C, D, E, F are all quite different. 'Horse' is similar among them all.

and appear to be cognates

b) Compare the word 'cat' in the six languages. What is the first reasonable guess as to the genetic relations of these languages? Discuss your answer. [6 pts]

I would guess that A and B are probably related since they have the same word, and that C and D are also likely related to A and B since they are also phonologically similar. E and F, on the other hand, are different in that they are not monosyllabic and also sound different; thus, they are most likely not related to A, B, C, and D.

A B C D E F = possibly related.

c) What do the words for 'dog' in the six languages tell us about the relationship among these? Discuss your answer. [6 pts]

The word for dog tells us that A and B are likely related, and perhaps C and D. A and B have the same word for 'dog', and E and F have words for 'dog' that are different by one 'u'. C and D show pretty much no relation to each other or the other languages. Thus, 'dog' shows no relation between the languages besides those two groupings.

conflicting

d) Language D has two words for ^{horse} 'dog', ~~dogs~~ ^{horse}ngưa and mã. The second word is used mainly in poetry and literature. What does it tell us about its contact with other languages in the table? [8 pts]

This tells us that language D must likely borrowed the 2nd 'mã' from one of the other languages, likely A or B. Perhaps this language was once an occupier, or perhaps these two languages have engaged in cultural contact (trading, exchange of literature) that has allowed or caused language D to pick up this second word for 'horse', which may be treated more formally. The contact of language D with language A or B is most likely similar to that between Japan and China, or Vietnam and China, which caused Chinese words to be picked up.

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6. Is the following Thai sentence a case of serialized verb construction? Explain your answer using the criteria to identify serial constructions. What are two different interpretations of this sentence? (10pts)

khǎw nāng àan nangsǎw
3SG sit read book

Yes, it is serialized verb construction, as the two verbs follow each other without any conjunction and share the same subject, 'khǎw'. This sentence could be interpreted with the two verbs occurring simultaneously (sitting reading the book) or (~~right after each other~~ ~~(sit and read the book)~~ as influencing each other (sit to read the book).
↑
this is correct!!

7. Discuss the difference between Subject and Topic using the following examples. (10pts)

- (a) It is raining.
- (b) The dog chased a cat.
- (c) A cat was chased by the dog.
- (d) dèk hōng nī kaanbāan mây khəy tham sàk thīi!
child room this homework NEG ever do even (one).time

The subject is the noun phrase with the greatest grammatical importance, and the topic is ~~the~~ what is being discussed. In English, they are often one and the same, as in (b) and (c). In some languages, subject-prominent ones like English, the topic can be omitted, like in (a), where the subject 'it' is a dummy noun. In (a), the topic is not specified, but there is a clear subject. Other languages like (d) are in topic-prominent and feature a separate topic and subject. In (d), the topic is the 'child', ^{can} but the subject is the 'homework' that is never done in 'this room'.

(b) - 2
(c) - 2

8. List at least three linguistic features of Cantonese apart from it being a tonal language. (10pts)

- Aside from being tonal, Cantonese also:
- has SVO word order
 - is an isolating language → uses aspect markers.
 - is part of the Sinitic family
 - in Hong Kong, it often features code-mixing with English

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