

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2006**

**MEG-4 : ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

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**Note :** Answer question number 1 which is **compulsory**,  
and any **three** from the remaining questions.

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1. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Illustrate your answer with examples : 25
  - (i) American Structuralism
  - (ii) Changes in English spelling from old to modern English
  - (iii) Langue and Parole
  - (iv) Characteristics of human communication system
  
2. What are the differences between vowels and consonants ? Describe the pure vowels of English. Give one example each of words in which these vowels occur. 25
  
3. Give an account of derivational affixes in English. Illustrate with suitable examples. 25

4. What do you understand by the term 'standard language' ? Describe in detail the process of standardization of a language. 25
5. What are the learner variables crucial in second language acquisition/learning ? Discuss. 25
6. Why is language planning essential in any country ? What are the factors which influence language planning ? 25
7. Attempt a stylistic analysis of the following poem, focussing specifically on metaphor, simile, imagery and alliteration and any feature that you may think significant : 25

Always too eager for the future, we  
Pick up bad habits of expectancy.  
Something is always approaching; every day  
*Till then we say,*

Watching from a bluff the tiny, clear,  
Sparkling armada of promises draw near.  
How slow they are ! And how much time they waste,  
Refusing to make haste !

Yet still they leave us holding wretched stalks  
Of disappointment, for, though nothing balks  
Each big approach, leaning with brasswork prinked,  
Each rope distinct,

Flagged, and the figurehead with golden tits  
Arching our way, it never anchors; it's  
No sooner present than it turns to past.  
Right to the last

We think each one will heave to and unload  
All good into our lives, all we are owed  
For waiting so devoutly and so long.  
But we are wrong :

Only one ship is seeking us, a black-  
Sailed unfamiliar, towing at her back  
A huge and birdless silence. In her wake  
No waters breed or break.