

S1 Exam in Linguistics

Exercise 1: Indicate the true and false statements below. Correct the false ones. (8 pts.)

true (T) false (F)

1. Labovian sociolinguistics is speech communities.

False

Labovian sociolinguistics is concerned with the interplay between linguistic variation and different sociocultural and attitudinal factors

2. Traditional approaches to dialectology had, in large part, sought

False

.....different European languages vary and change.

Traditional approaches to dialectology had, in large part, set the task to document archaic and obsolete speech forms to reconstruct older European languages.

3. Mutually intelligibility languages characterization.

False

There are also other sociopolitical forces that play a major role in the delimitation of languages such as regional identity and national affiliation.

4. In his groundwork research, Labov (1963) found that

TRUE

..... with Martha's Vineyard Island.

5. Labov (1994) asserts that women

TRUE

..... of awareness.

Exercise 2: Fill in the blanks in the paragraphs given below with the correct answer. (12 pts.)

-Many laypeople see the standard as good, pure, clear, and rule-governed – a “real language” – while “dialects” are broken, chaotic, limited, or impermanent. Linguists try to avoid these kinds

of value judgments. Their approach is **Descriptivist** (how people actually talk), rather than **Prescriptivist** (how people “should” talk).

-Labov developed four tasks that can lead speakers to pay less attention to their speech, thus eliciting more naturalistic and conversational speech. These tasks are **sociolinguistic Interview, reading a passage, word list, and minimal pairs**

-Sociolinguists concur that there are statistically significant correlations between linguistic forms and speakers’ sociocultural characteristics. In other words, rather than **free variation**, in which the choice between forms is completely arbitrary and unpredictable, he found **systematic (structured/patterned) variation**, in which the choice between linguistic forms is linked to different social and regional factors.

-According to Deborah Tannen, gender differences in language reflect different cultures of conversation (a **cultural difference** model), rather than differences in access to power (a **dominance** model).

- **NORMs** is an acronym for “non-mobile older rural males.” These speakers are believed to have retained the most traditional speech and are consequently the focus of many dialectology studies. **Isogloss** is an imaginary boundary or line drawn on a map that separates particular linguistic features.

GOOD LUCK