

**II/ENG (ii)**

**2014**

**( 2nd Semester )**

**ENGLISH**

**SECOND PAPER**

**( History of English Language and Phonetics )**

*Full Marks : 75*

*Time : 3 hours*

**( PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE )**

*( Marks : 45 )*

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

1. Trace the evolution of Standard English. 10
2. Write a note on the characteristics of either  
Old English or Middle English. 10
3. Discuss the place or manner of articulation. 10

4. Provide the correct phonetic symbols against the given manner and place of articulation (any five) :  $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Bilabial plosive (voiced)
- (b) Bilabial nasal
- (c) Labiodental fricatives (voiceless)
- (d) Velar plosive (voiceless)
- (e) Velar nasal
- (f) Glottal stop
- (g) Close front vowel
- (h) Close back vowel

5. Transcribe any *five* of the following using phonetic symbols :  $1 \times 5 = 5$

- (a) Judge
- (b) Cell
- (c) Church
- (d) Kite
- (e) Sing
- (f) Cat
- (g) Zoo
- (h) Rain

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**2 0 1 4**

( 2nd Semester )

**ENGLISH**

**SECOND PAPER**

**( History of English Language and Phonetics )**

( PART : A—OBJECTIVE )

( Marks : 30 )

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions*

**SECTION—A**

( Marks : 15 )

Answer **all** questions

1. Put a tick (✓) mark against the correct alternative in the brackets provided (any ten) : 1×10=10

(a) Which dialect attained prominence during the Middle English period?

(i) West Saxon (    )

(ii) East Midland (    )

(iii) Northern England (    )

(b) Before the term 'slang' came to general use, such type of language was called

(i) jargon ( )

(ii) hackney ( )

(iii) cant ( )

(c) Examples of Danish influence in place-names are

(i) -burg, -borough ( )

(ii) -chester, -shire ( )

(iii) -thwaite, -by ( )

(d) The process of combining two words into one with a loss of a syllable is called

(i) telescoping ( )

(ii) contraction ( )

(iii) portmanteau formation ( )

(e) The modern grammatical system of English had come into existence by

(i) the beginning of the eighteenth century  
( )

(ii) the end of the seventeenth century  
( )

(iii) the middle of the eighteenth century  
( )

(f) Which of the following was the decisive factor in 'fixing' the spelling of the English language?

(i) The publication of Johnson's *Dictionary* ( )

(ii) The translation of the *Bible* into English in the seventeenth century ( )

(iii) The invention of printing press ( )

(g) Sounds produced with a wide open glottis are called

(i) voiced sounds ( )

(ii) voiceless sounds ( )

(iii) nasal sounds ( )

(h) The letter *p* in the English word *spy* represents

(i) a voiceless bilabial plosive ( )

(ii) a voiced alveolar plosive ( )

(iii) a voiced bilabial nasal ( )

(i) There are

(i) five cardinal vowels ( )

(ii) three cardinal vowels ( )

(iii) eight cardinal vowels ( )

( 4 )

(j) Vowels are longer when

(i) followed by voiced consonants ( )

(ii) followed by voiceless consonants ( )

(iii) they occur in the initial position ( )

(k) All sounds of English are produced with

(i) pulmonic aggressive airstream mechanism ( )

(ii) pulmonic ingressive airstream mechanism ( )

(iii) glottalic airstream mechanism ( )

2. State whether the following statements are *True* or *False* (any five) :  $1 \times 5 = 5$

(a) Pure vowels are vowels of unchanging quality.

( True / False )

(b) The vocal chords are joined together at both ends.

( True / False )

(c) If [p] exists in a language, [b] will have to exist in that language.

( True / False )

(d) During the articulation of vowels, the air escapes with friction.

( True / False )

( 5 )

- (e) William of Normandy was also known as William the Conqueror.

( True / False )

- (f) According to Potter, the present-day English vocabulary is approximately half Germanic (English and Scandinavian) and half Romance (French and Latin).

( True / False )

( 6 )

SECTION—B

( Marks : 15 )

2. Answer the following questions in not more than five sentences each (any five) :  $3 \times 5 = 15$

(a) Name any three of the four chief theories of the origin of language.



( 7 )

(b) What is generalization?

(c) What is meant by i-mutation?

( 9 )

- (d) Write a short note on the contribution of the *Bible* to the evolution of the English language.

( 10 )

(e) Describe affricates.

- (f) What do you understand by the term 'phonology'?

( 12 )

(g) What is nucleus of a syllable?

( 13 )

(h) What are consonant clusters?

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