

Semester I
Introduction to Linguistics
CODE: A1

Module I (20+5 Marks)

Scope and nature of linguistics; different Branches of linguistics; Language and Communication.
Definition of language; Characteristics of language.
Theories regarding the origin of Language.
Levels of language and their hierarchy; phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic.
Language relation: genetic, areal, typological and morphological.
Language: spoken language and written modes and relation between them; writing systems: evolution of writing systems.
Concepts of Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic Relations; Synchronic and Diachronic relations; competence and performance; innateness hypothesis; langue and parole.
Language universals and specific properties of language

Module II (20+5 Marks)

Language variations: Dialect, Idiolect and language; dialect geography and isoglosses; Register, Style Code, Sociolect; Pidgins and Creoles.
Standardisation of language: processes of standardization.
Language as a system of communication: communicative functions of language: referential, emotive, conative, poetic metalinguistic and phatic functions of language; animal communication and human communication; design features of language.
Semantics: Basic concepts

References

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- Wardhaugh, R. 1977. *Introduction to Linguistics*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press
- Yule, G. 1987. *The Study of Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.