

Introduction to Linguistics

Linguistics · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What is the study of speech sounds in a language called?

- A) Syntax
- B) Phonetics**
- C) Semantics
- D) Morphology

2. Which branch of linguistics focuses on the rules for how words are combined to form sentences?

- A) Syntax**
- B) Etymology
- C) Pragmatics
- D) Lexicology

3. What do linguists call the smallest unit of meaning in a language?

- A) Phoneme
- B) Grapheme
- C) Morpheme**
- D) Syllable

4. The study of the history and origin of words is known as:

- A) Phonology
- B) Semantics
- C) Etymology**
- D) Dialectology

5. What is the term for a regional variety of a language that differs from the standard version?

- A) Slang
- B) Jargon
- C) Dialect**
- D) Accent

6. Which field of linguistics explores the meaning of words and sentences?

- A) Semantics**
- B) Syntax
- C) Morphology
- D) Phonology

7. In the English language, what are the basic units of sound represented by letters called?

A) Morphemes

B) Phonemes

C) Semantics

D) Syntax

8. What is the term for a language that has no native speakers?

A) Dead language

B) Pidgin

C) Creole

D) Lingua franca

9. Which of these is a system of communication that uses visible gestures and signs instead of sound?

A) Body language

B) Sign language

C) Morse code

D) Braille

10. What do we call the formal set of rules that govern the structure of a language?

A) Vocabulary

B) Grammar

C) Pronunciation

D) Dialect

11. The study of how language is used in social contexts is called:

A) Sociolinguistics

B) Psycholinguistics

C) Applied linguistics

D) Historical linguistics

12. What is a 'lexicon' in the context of linguistics?

A) A list of spelling rules

B) The total vocabulary of a person or language

C) The structure of a paragraph

D) A method of translating audio