

Inštitút anglistiky a amerikanistiky FF PU v Prešove

Program: anglický jazyk a anglofónne kultúry, Bc.

Štátnicové témy

English language, linguistics, translation and interpreting studies

Brief subject description:

The topics cover essential issues pertaining to the system, structure and functioning of the English language ranging from phonetics/phonology, morphology, lexicology, syntax up to translation studies understood as an interdisciplinary. The aim of the state final exams is to consolidate undergraduates' knowledge acquired during the previous years of their study at the B.A. level and encourage them to think about core linguistic disciplines as well as essentials of translation and interpreting theory in a broader synthesizing perspective.

Areas of competence required:

- Candidates are required to acquire a holistic perspective of the structure and system of English and its functioning in connected discourses;
- Candidates are required to show a firm grasp of theoretical as well as practical aspects of English linguistics;
- Candidates are required to demonstrate their abilities of abstract thinking at essential language levels in order to distinguish or compare various linguistic and translational phenomena, using specific examples;
- Candidates are required to use established terminology related to particular linguistic disciplines and translation theories;
- Candidates are required to introduce the drawn topic briefly, then move on to discuss specific details, and subsequently respond to any questions raised or comments made by the members of the state exam committee.

Exam topics and questions:

1. Introduction to linguistics – Verbal communication

- Verbal communication components: information, communication means, communication network, communication activity
- Verbal message elements

2. Introduction to linguistics – Language and language functions

- Language as a structured system
- Common language functions (Jakobson's approach) – referential, expressive, conative, phatic, metalingual, poetic

3. Introduction to linguistics – Linguistics and its branches

- Language levels and core linguistics
- Linguistics vs. other branches of linguistics
- Methods of and approaches to studying language

4. Phonetics and phonology

- Speech production (the vocal tract and its parts)
- Segments: vowels (classification, quantity vs. quality, diphthongs, and triphthongs) and consonants (classification, places of articulation, manner of articulation, voicing)

5. Phonetics and phonology

- Phonetics and phonology (differences between the two fields, phone, phoneme, allophone)
- Syllable
- Lexical stress

6. Phonetics and phonology

- Sentence stress
- Aspects of connected speech (assimilation, elision, linking)
- Intonation (tone and intonation systems, pitch, tones, functions of intonation)

7. Morphology

- Noun: the grammatical categories of countability and number
- Regular and irregular number formation
- Pluralia and singularia tantum

8. Morphology

- Noun: the grammatical category of determination
- Determination of common and proper nouns
- Determiners

9. Morphology

- Noun: the grammatical categories of gender and case
- Gender class system in English
- Expressing case relations in animate and inanimate nouns

10. Morphology

- Verb: the grammatical categories of tense and aspect
- Expressing future time
- Unreal tenses

11. Morphology

- Verb: the grammatical categories of mood and voice
- The form and usage of subjunctive mood
- The usage of passive voice and the types of agent

12. Morphology

- Adjectives: form and function
- Attributive adjectives, predicative adjectives, adjectives in postposition
- Gradation of adjectives

13. Morphology

- Adverbs: form and function
- Gradation of adverbs

- Adverb vs. adverbial

14. Lexical semantics

- The meaning of word – types of word meaning
- Comparison of various theories of word meaning
- Possible strands in the English lexicon (territorial, social, stylistic and temporal)
- Lexical configurations – lexical field theory

15. Lexical semantics

- Paradigmatic relations between words: synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, polysemy and homonymy

16. Lexical semantics and phraseology

- Syntagmatic relations between words: idioms and collocations
- Multi-word units in English: typical features and problems of their classification – free combinations vs. fixed expressions
- Paremiological vs. non-paremiological multi-word units

17. Word-formation

- Different conceptions of word in English
- Lexicalization and productivity
- Word-formation processes: principal and minor

18. Semiotics

- de Saussure's theory of linguistic sign
- Ogden and Richard's semiotic triangle
- Peirce's typology of signs: icon, index, symbol
- Morris' conception of semiotics

19. Syntax

- The structure of phrase
- Major types of phrase and their syntactic functions

20. Syntax

- Simple sentence, sentence and clause
- Basic clause patterns
- Communicative types of sentence

21. Syntax

- Clause elements: types and semantic roles
- English word-order
- Sentence structure, verb complementation

22. Syntax

- Complex sentence and transformations: interrogation, negation, passivization, subject-verb inversion, cleft sentences, extraposition, fronting, postponement of postmodifier
- Coordination and subordination
- Compound and complex sentences

- Finite and non-finite clauses, reported speech

23. Translation studies

- Possible interpretations of translation: past & present and futuristic approaches
- Major turns in translation studies, their comparison and consequences
- Equivalence-based vs. functionalist (skopos) approaches to translation
- Routes in translation studies: from text-based translation studies to a multi-discipline, the influence of globalisation on translation and translation studies and new directions

24. Translation studies

- Central concepts in translation theory: source and target texts, start text, equivalence, fidelity vs. fluency, (un-)translatability, the question of loss & gain, translation universals, binaries in translation
- Literary vs. non-literary text: from binaries to borders and beyond

25. Translation studies

- Translation as meta-communication: possible approaches
- Approaches to text and textuality in translation (de Beaugrande & Dressler, Halliday, Nord)
- Supermemes in translation theory
- Translation methods, strategies, procedures (techniques) and shifts

26. Translation studies

- Translation competence as a debate
- Translation competence models (the PACTE group, EMT versions, Kiraly): contribution and comparison
- Changing translators' competences, roles and responsibilities in the digital age
- The modern translator's toolkit: databases, e-resources and corpora, CAT tools and machine translation

27. Interpreting studies

- Error categories in interpretation
- Determining the seriousness of the error
- Describing the audience

28. Interpreting studies

- Main idea identification in the listening phase
- Keyword and summarizing

29. Interpreting studies

- Recognizing and splitting ideas during note-taking
- Rozan's concept of NT
- Symbols. Links. Verticality. Hierarchies of values.

30. Interpreting studies

- Factors in favour and against storing and retrieving information in consecutive interpreting
- Memory prompts
- Reformulating specific concepts and relationships
- Factors in self-monitoring

Recommended literature:

- Aronoff, M. and Rees-Miller, J. 2001. *The Handbook of Linguistics*. Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, Blackwell Publishers.
- Bednárová-Gibová, K. 2018. *Selected Chapters in English Lexicology. Part I: Lexical Semantics and Lexicography*. Prešov: Vydavateľstvo Prešovskej univerzity.
- Bednárová-Gibová, K. and Jesenská, P. 2019. *Selected Chapters in English Lexicology. Part II: Phraseology and Word-formation*. Prešov: Vydavateľstvo Prešovskej univerzity.
- Bednárová-Gibová, K., Gavurová M. and J. Gresty. 2024. *A Propaedeutics of Translation Studies*. Prešov: Vydavateľstvo Prešovskej univerzity.
- Bednárová-Gibová, K. and Gresty, J. 2022. *An Exercise Book of Translation*. Prešov: Vydavateľstvo Prešovskej univerzity.
<http://www.pulib.sk/web/kniznica/elpub/dokument/Gibova6>
- Biber, D. et al. 1999. *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. London: Longman.
- Bilá, M. and Eddy, E. 2013. *English Phonetics and Phonology for Slovak Students*. Prešov: Filozofická fakulta Prešovskej univerzity v Prešove.
- Carter, R. and McCarthy, M. 2006. *Cambridge Grammar of English*. Cambridge: CUP. Crystal, D. 2000. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language*. Cambridge: CUP. Downing, A. and Locke, P. 2002. *A University Course in English Grammar*. Routledge.
- Gillies, A. 2010. *Note-taking for Consecutive Interpreting – A Short Course*. St Jerome Publishing
- Jackson, H. and Ze Amvela, E. 2007. *Words, Meaning and Vocabulary: An Introduction to Modern English Lexicology*. 2nd ed. London and New York: Continuum.
- Kačmárová, A. 2008, 2011, 2013. *A Concise English Grammar Course*. 2nd rev. ed. Prešov: FF PU.
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- Patrie, Carol J. 2004. *The Effective Interpreting Series: Consecutive Interpreting from English*. San Diego: DawnSignPress.
- Pym, A. 2023. *Exploring Translation Theories*. 3rd ed. London/New York: Routledge.
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- Rafajlovičová, R. 2012. *English Syntax. A Student's Grammar Book and Workbook*. Prešov: FF PU.
- Rafajlovičová, R. 2015. *The Structure of the English Sentence: A Student's Grammar Book and Workbook with Key*. Prešov: Prešovská tlačiareň.
- Roach, P. 2000. *English Phonetics and Phonology*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Štekauer, P. 1993. *Essentials of English Linguistics*. Prešov: Slovacontact.
- Štekauer, P.(ed.) 2000. *Rudiments of English Linguistics*. Prešov: Slovacontact.

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