



ENG508

Final-Term (Solved)

ABSTRACT

This comprehensive collection of notes is accurately crafted to empower students to excel academically, ensuring they achieve a minimum of 80% marks in their examinations. The content is organized with clarity and precision, focusing on key concepts, critical analyses, and practical applications tailored to the syllabus. These notes serve as a reliable resource for both thorough preparation and last-minute revision. Designed to inspire confidence and mastery, this guide is an essential tool for students striving for academic excellence.

Maha Malik
Spring2025

Politeness Theory

Developed by **Brown and Levinson**, this theory suggests people maintain “face” (public self-image) in interaction. Politeness strategies are used to avoid threatening another's face.

Concept of Face in Politeness

“Face” refers to an individual’s self-image in a social context. Two types:

- **Positive face:** desire to be liked, appreciated.
 - **Negative face:** desire for autonomy and freedom from imposition.
-

Positive and Negative Face

- **Positive face:** Need to be accepted by others (e.g., compliments).
 - **Negative face:** Need not to be imposed upon (e.g., apologies, indirect requests).
-

Face Threatening Act (FTA) & Face Saving Act (FSA)

- **FTA:** Any act that threatens the hearer’s or speaker’s face (e.g., “Shut the window!”).
 - **FSA:** Strategies to minimize threat (e.g., “Could you please close the window?”).
-

Three Maxims of Politeness

1. **Tact Maxim** – minimize cost to others.
 2. **Generosity Maxim** – minimize benefit to self.
 3. **Approbation Maxim** – avoid dispraise of others.
-

What Happens When a Polite Form Is Used Inappropriately?

It may cause confusion, awkwardness, or unintended offense. For example, over-politeness in informal situations can seem sarcastic or distant.

Identify Positive and Negative Politeness

- “I know you’re busy, but...” → **Negative politeness**
 - “You’re so good at this—can you help me?” → **Positive politeness**
-

Factors Influencing Social Distance

- Age, gender, class, profession
 - Context of interaction
 - Familiarity or hierarchy
-

Social Distance Variables

- **Power** (status difference)
 - **Distance** (closeness of relationship)
 - **Imposition** (degree of burden)
-

Social Deixis

Refers to expressions that indicate social relationships (e.g., honorifics, titles). Example: "sir", "madam", "tu" vs "vous" in French.

Types of Speech Acts (John Searle)

1. **Assertives** – stating facts.
 2. **Directives** – requests or commands.
 3. **Commissives** – promises or commitments.
 4. **Expressives** – emotional responses.
 5. **Declarations** – change the world via utterance (e.g., “I now pronounce you...”)
-

Direct and Indirect Speech Acts

- **Direct:** "Close the door."

- **Indirect:** "It's getting cold in here."
-

Label Direct or Indirect Speech

- "Can you pass the salt?" → **Indirect**
 - "Pass the salt." → **Direct**
-

Speech Acts Vary by Culture

Cultures differ in how direct/indirect or formal/informal speech acts are. What is polite in one culture may be rude in another.

Speech Act Theory

Developed by **Austin** and later **Searle**, it views language as action rather than just conveying information.

Limitations of Speech Act Theory

- Doesn't account well for indirectness.
 - Lacks attention to context and culture.
-

Difference Between Expressives and Declarations

- **Expressives:** convey feelings (e.g., "I'm sorry").
 - **Declarations:** perform an act (e.g., "I resign").
-

Uses of Machine Language

In pragmatics, machine language models (like AI) are used to:

- Analyze discourse
- Simulate conversations

Maha Malik's Compilation

- Teach language use
-

Training Pragmatics Outside the Classroom

- Real-life interaction
 - Watching authentic media
 - Practicing role plays
 - Peer communication
-

Formal Pragmatics

Focuses on the **logical structure** of language use and meaning in formal contexts (philosophical/logical approaches).

Define Deixis

Deixis involves words whose meaning depends on context (e.g., "here", "now", "you").

Types of Deixis

1. **Person** – I, you, he
 2. **Place** – here, there
 3. **Time** – now, then
 4. **Social** – sir, bro
 5. **Discourse** – this, the following
-

Demonstrative Deixis – Examples

- “This book is heavy.”
 - “That’s interesting.”
-

Deictic Discourse

Discourse rich in **context-dependent references** (like personal pronouns and time markers).

Deictic Reference

Refers to entities based on the context of utterance (e.g., "you" = listener, "now" = moment of speaking).

Enlist Types of Deixis

1. Person
 2. Spatial
 3. Temporal
 4. Social
 5. Discourse
-

Five Properties of Conversational Implicature

1. **Cancelability**
 2. **Non-detachability**
 3. **Calculability**
 4. **Non-conventionality**
 5. **Context-dependence**
-

Conventional vs. Conversational Implicature

- **Conventional:** meaning tied to specific words (e.g., "but" implies contrast).
 - **Conversational:** inferred based on context and maxims.
-

Particularized Conversational Implicature

Relies heavily on specific context:

- "John's car is parked outside." → Implies John is inside (depending on context).
-

Generalized Conversational Implicature – Examples

- "She bought a car and drove to Lahore." → Implies chronological order.
-

Types of Implicature

1. Conversational (generalized/particularized)
 2. Conventional
-

Strong vs. Weak Implicature

- **Strong:** clearly implied
 - **Weak:** only loosely suggested
-

Cancellability in Implicature

An implicature can be denied without contradiction:

- "He's poor, but he's happy" → Implicature: poverty and happiness are unexpected, but can be canceled.
-

Calculability

Listeners **infer implicature** based on conversational maxims and context.

Implicature vs. Explicature

- **Implicature:** inferred meaning
 - **Explicature:** explicitly communicated but contextually enriched meaning
-

Implicature as Reference in Proposition

It's used when the speaker refers indirectly (implied rather than stated), enriching the propositional meaning.

Grice's Cooperative Principle – Note

Grice proposed that speakers generally cooperate in communication, guided by four maxims:

1. Quantity
 2. Quality
 3. Relation
 4. Manner
-

Maxims Flouted – Examples

- “Well, I *guess* he’s a genius...” → Flouting **quality**
 - Giving unrelated response → Flouting **relation**
-

Identify Maxims of Relation, Manner, Quality

- “It’s raining.” (in response to tea question) → **Relation flouted**
 - “Something happened.” (instead of details) → **Quantity/Manner**
-

Tautology – Maxim of Relation or Manner

A tautology like “Boys will be boys” may flout **relation** or **manner** for implicature purposes.

Principles of Pragmatics

- Relevance
 - Cooperation
 - Politeness
 - Contextual meaning
 - Speech act functions
-

Two Principles Identification from Statements

- If speaker is too vague → violates **manner**
 - If gives too much info → violates **quantity**
-

Macro Functions (3 blanks)

1. **Ideational** – expressing content
 2. **Interpersonal** – social interaction
 3. **Textual** – creating coherent discourse
-

Define Adjacency Pairs

Paired utterances in conversation:

- Question → Answer
 - Greeting → Greeting
 - Request → Acceptance/Refusal
-

Examples of Adjacency Pairs

- “Hello!” → “Hi!”
 - “Can I help you?” → “Yes, please.”
-

Features of Conversational Analysis (5 Points)

1. Turn-taking
 2. Repair
 3. Overlapping
 4. Adjacency pairs
 5. Openings/closings
-

Overlapping, Turn-taking, Backchannels – Define & Identify

- **Overlapping**: speakers talk at once.

**ENG508_Spring2025
Final-Term (Solved)**

- **Turn-taking:** managed sequence of speaking.
 - **Backchannels:** short responses (e.g., “uh-huh”, “really?”).
-

Topic and Comment

- **Topic:** What the sentence is about.
 - **Comment:** What is said about the topic.
-

Backchannels

Signals of attention/agreement: “yeah”, “mhm”, “I see”.

Parametric Fragments

Incomplete utterances that still communicate meaning based on shared context (e.g., “More coffee?”).

Write a Note on CALL (Computer-Assisted Language Learning)

CALL refers to using computers and technology for language learning. It includes:

- Interactive exercises
 - Pronunciation tools
 - Grammar and vocabulary apps
 - Enhances learner autonomy and engagement
-

Corpus Linguistics

The study of language based on large collections (corpora) of real-world text. Used to:

- Identify patterns of language use
 - Analyze frequency, collocations, syntax, and pragmatics
-

How Computer Helps in Linguistics

- Corpus analysis
 - Speech recognition
 - Syntax parsing
 - Pragmatic analysis
 - Language documentation
-

Role of Computer in Communicative Competence

Computers:

- Simulate real-life conversations
 - Provide immediate feedback
 - Allow practice in grammar, sociolinguistic, and strategic competence
-

Uses of Machine Language

- Speech synthesis
 - Parsing natural language
 - AI-driven translation
 - Chatbots and conversational agents
-

Intercultural Pragmatics

Studies how speakers from different cultures use language in interaction, focusing on:

- Turn-taking
 - Politeness
 - Misunderstandings due to cultural variation
-

Cross-Cultural Pragmatics – Explain

Deals with how different cultures perform speech acts (e.g., requests, apologies). E.g., directness in German vs. indirectness in Japanese.

Pragmatic Competence and Its Importance for L2 Learners

Involves knowing *how* to say things appropriately:

- Understanding implicature, politeness
 - Avoiding pragmatic failure (e.g., sounding rude)
 - Important for fluency and social integration
-

Heritage (1984) on Understanding Speaker's Action

Heritage emphasized that understanding is an *interactional achievement*, relying on:

- Sequential organization
 - Adjacency pairs
 - Contextual clues
-

How Speech Acts Vary Across Cultures

- Apology forms differ (explicit vs. implicit)
 - Requests can be direct (US) or indirect (Korea)
 - Compliments are more common in Western than Eastern cultures
-

Cross-Cultural Labels (India, England, Australia)

Labels like “uncle” or “aunty” in India signal respect, while in Australia, casual names (e.g., “mate”) suggest closeness.

Define Ambiguity

A sentence or word with more than one possible meaning.

Difference Between Structural Ambiguity and Lexical Ambiguity

- **Lexical:** Ambiguity in word (e.g., “bank” – river or money)

ENG508_Spring2025
Final-Term (Solved)

- **Structural:** Sentence structure allows multiple readings (e.g., “Visiting relatives can be boring”)
-

Structural vs. Lexical Ambiguity – Identify

- “Flying planes can be dangerous” → **Structural**
 - “He got a fine” → **Lexical**
-

Define Co-text/Contextual Meaning

Co-text: Words around a word that help determine meaning.

Contextual meaning: Meaning derived from physical/social context.

Anaphora and Cataphora – Define and Differentiate

- **Anaphora:** Refers back (e.g., *Aisha* came. **She** was late.)
 - **Cataphora:** Refers forward (e.g., **She** was late. *Aisha* came.)
-

Referential Communication

The use of language to refer to entities or ideas, requiring mutual understanding between speaker and hearer.

Amina’s Brother Bought Four Horses – Reference Test

To test:

- Who is "her brother"?
 - Do "four horses" refer to a specific or general set?
Use questions or pronouns in following text to confirm reference.
-

Metaphor

**ENG508_Spring2025
Final-Term (Solved)**

Describing one thing in terms of another (e.g., “Time is money”).

Irony

Saying the opposite of what is meant, often humorously or critically (e.g., “Great job!” after a mistake).

Metaphor, Irony, and Hyperbole

- **Metaphor:** Indirect comparison
 - **Irony:** Opposite meaning intended
 - **Hyperbole:** Extreme exaggeration (e.g., “I’ve told you a million times”)
-

Synecdoche

A part stands for the whole (e.g., “All hands on deck” → hands = sailors)

Define the Term Irony

The expression of meaning using language that signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect.

Difference Between Metaphor and Synecdoche

- **Metaphor:** Conceptual comparison
 - **Synecdoche:** Part-whole relationship
-

Numerals, Modals, and Connectives (Semantic Role Types)

- **Numerals:** quantity
- **Modals:** possibility, necessity
- **Connectives:** logical relations (e.g., “but”, “because”)

Difficulties in Word-to-Word Translation

- Cultural context lost
 - Idiomatic expressions mistranslated
 - Ambiguity or polysemy ignored
-

What Is the Translation Method?

A traditional method where L1 is used to teach L2 by translating sentences and grammar rules directly.

Interlingual Translation Model – Usage

Used in:

- Bilingual dictionaries
 - Machine translation
 - Contrastive linguistics
-

Interlanguage – Define

A dynamic linguistic system formed by L2 learners that includes features of both L1 and L2, plus unique errors.

Define Prosody with Examples

Prosody = rhythm, stress, and intonation patterns of speech.
Example: “You did WHAT?” (intonation changes meaning)

Explain Prosody

It shapes the speaker's attitude, emotion, and meaning, and helps in distinguishing statements, questions, sarcasm, etc.

Maha Malik's Compilation

Compilation

Presupposition and Entailment – Define and Identify

- **Presupposition:** Background assumption (e.g., “She stopped smoking” presupposes she once smoked)
 - **Entailment:** Logical consequence (e.g., “He killed the man” entails “The man is dead”)
-

Entailment in a Given Sentence

Sentence: “Ali is a bachelor.”
Entailment: Ali is unmarried.

Define the Term Ambiguity

A situation where language allows multiple interpretations.

Label Maxims and Principles in Given Sentences

Example:
“Some people did okay, I guess.” → Flouting **Maxim of Quantity** (vagueness)

Coherence and Cohesion (Lexical Types)

- **Cohesion:** Use of cohesive devices (e.g., conjunctions, reference)
 - **Coherence:** Logical flow of ideas
 - **Lexical cohesion types:** Repetition, synonyms, collocation
-

Five Discourses of Social Distance

1. Power relations
 2. Gender dynamics
 3. Social class
 4. Ethnicity and identity
 5. Institutional hierarchies
-

Intertextuality – Define

The relationship between texts; one text refers to or draws on another (e.g., parody, quotation, allusion).

Interpersonal Knowledge

Understanding how to manage relationships and social roles in communication (politeness, turn-taking, etc.)

3 Fundamental Concepts of Mental Communicative Competence

1. **Knowledge of language**
 2. **Knowledge of context**
 3. **Knowledge of interlocutor's beliefs/intentions**
-

Argumentation Theory

Focuses on how language is used to construct arguments, persuade, and resolve differences of opinion.

Adjacency Pairs

Two-part exchanges in conversation (e.g., “Hello” → “Hi”, “How are you?” → “Fine”).

Conceptual vs. Procedural Meaning – Two Ways to Differentiate

- **Conceptual:** Dictionary meaning (truth-conditional)
 - **Procedural:** Guides interpretation (e.g., “but” signals contrast)
-

“Don’t do” – Function in Data Collection

Maha Malik's Compilation

ENG508_Spring2025
Final-Term (Solved)

Used in pragmatics to analyze *directives*, *politeness*, and *negation* strategies in commands or prohibitions.

LoCastro's Viewpoint

LoCastro emphasized **contextualization cues** and **cultural norms** in pragmatics and language learning.

Pink Colour for Females – Cultural Connotation

In many cultures, pink symbolizes femininity, softness, or youth, though not universally (e.g., in some cultures, it's gender-neutral).

Define Expression

Any spoken or written phrase conveying meaning. In pragmatics, expression includes literal and implied (pragmatic) content.

Particularized Implicature

Meaning depends on a specific context.

Example: "There's a garage around the corner" (implied: it's open, has gas, etc.)

Difference Between "Given" and "New" Information

- **Given:** Known/shared by speaker and listener
 - **New:** Introduced into discourse
-

Sentence Analysis to Identify Violated Maxims

Sentence: "I had a *decent* day – I only got yelled at *twice!*" → Flouting **Quality** (sarcasm), possibly **Quantity**

Pragmatic Fragments

Incomplete sentences understood through shared context.

Example: "More tea?" → Implies offer/request

[B.Ed. \(1.5 Years\)](#)

[BS English](#)

[Files](#)

