

# Linguistics 201 – Fall 08 Midterm Review

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## Language in General

- linguistic competence and performance
- arbitrariness and non-arbitrariness
- form/meaning distinction
- discreteness
- productivity
- natural vs. constructed languages

## Phonetics

- International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) for English
- nucleus (of a syllable)
- articulatory/auditory/acoustic distinction
- anatomy of the vocal tract
  - vocal folds
  - glottis
  - oral cavity
  - nasal cavity
- types of consonants
  - place of articulation
  - manner of articulation
  - glottal state (voicing)
- vowel shapes
  - tongue height, advancement

- rounding
- tenseness
- monophthongs/diphthongs
- spectrogram
- harmonics

## Phonology

- phone/phoneme
- contrastive/noncontrastive sounds
- allophony
- minimal pair
- distribution (of a phone), complementary distribution
- alternation
- natural classes of sounds
- phonological “rules”
  - assimilation (palatalization, vowel harmony)
  - dissimilation
  - insertion
  - deletion
  - metathesis
  - strengthening
  - weakening
  - obligatory vs. optional “rules”

## Morphology

- lexicon
- lexical category
- stem/root distinction
- derivation: *possible/impossible/impossibility*
- inflection: pluralization, tense, case marking

- classification of morphemes
  - free/bound
  - bound roots: ‘rasp’
  - content morphemes
- word formation
  - affixation (suff-, pre-, in-)
  - compounding
  - alternation: *smite/smote/smitten*
  - suppletion
- morphological type: analytic/synthetic
- structure
  - input/output (to a morphological process)
  - hierarchy:  $[[in][[console][able]]]$
  - ambiguity: *unlockable*
- allomorphy: English plural (*dogs,cops,foxes*)

## Syntax

- phrase structure
- word order
- grammatical/ungrammatical distinction
- constituency and hierarchy
- structural ambiguity: *Mary saw the dragon in the cave with the telescope.*
- open/closed lexical categories (content words vs. function words)
- lexical head