

Unit V Short Questions and Answers

1. AAVE

Ans: African American Vernacular English

2. African American English (AAE)

Ans: A social dialect used by many African Americans in different regions of the USA.

3. African American Vernacular English

Ans: The casual Speech style used by many African Americans as a vernacular

4. Category

Ans: Category is a group with common features.

5. Classifiers

Ans: Classifiers are the grammatical markers that indicate the type of a noun.

6. Convergence

Ans: Convergence is a change in speech style. When two men of different social status and education converse, the social distance is reduced by one man using the other's speech style. This is also called Speech Accommodation.

Example: An old Professor using the speech style of the young students.

7. Covert Prestige

Ans: A specific, small group of speakers values its non-standard speech style . The style is usually not accepted in all social groups (e.g. youth language).

8. Cultural Transmission

Ans: The process whereby knowledge of a language is passed from one generation to the next generation.

9. Culture

Ans: Culture is socially acquired knowledge.

10. Dialect

Ans: A particular form of a language (grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation) which is peculiar to a specific region or social group.

11. Idiolect

Ans: The personal dialect of an individual.

12. Isogloss

Ans: A line on a map separating two areas in which a particular linguistic aspect is different.

13. Kinship Terms

Ans: Relationship words used to refer to the same family members e.g. Mother, Aunt etc.,

14. Linguistic determinism

Ans: The idea that we can only think in the categories provided by our language.

15. Linguistic geography

Ans: The study of language variation based on where different varieties of language are used.

16. Linguistic relativity

Ans: The idea that we think about the world using categories provided by our language.

17. Lexicalized and Non-lexicalized

Ans: Expressions in a single word are called Lexicalized
Expressions not expressed as a single word are called non-lexicalized.

18. Overt Prestige

Ans: Status that is generally recognized as "better" in the larger community (prestige with positive value)

19. Prestige

Ans: Higher status is called Prestige.

20. Sapir-Worf hypothesis

Ans: The idea that people view the world differently due to difference in language structure. The name is derived from two American scientists Edward Sapir and Benjamin Worf.

21. Slang

Ans: Informal words or phrases, which are part of the language spoken by people of non-higher status. e.g. bucks for money.

22. Social dialect

Ans: A variety of language with aspects which differ according to the social status.

23. Social gender

Ans: A difference between men and women depending upon their social roles.

24. Social marker

Ans: A linguistic feature marking the speaker as a member of a particular social group.

25. Social Variable

Ans: The factors such as middle class and working class to differentiate one group of speakers from others.

26. Sociolect

Ans: The social dialect that is strongly associated with one social group (e.g. working-class speech)

27. Sociolinguistic competence

Ans: The ability to use language appropriately according to the social context.

28. Sociolinguistics

Ans: The study of the relationship between language and society.

29. Speech Community

Ans: A group of people who share a set of norms and expectations regarding use of language.

30. Speech Style

Ans: A way of speaking that is either formal/careful or informal/casual.