LINGUISTICS 321 ***Phonology***

STUDY GUIDE TO THE FINAL EXAM (December 12, 2004)

A. LEVELS OF REPRESENTATION

1. What is the *Biuniqueness Principle*? Illustrate your description with an example.
2. Why is the *Biuniqueness Principle* counter-intuitive? What is the solution suggested by structuralists? Discuss by referring to the example analyzed in class.
3. In what way is the approach of lexical phonology superior to the two-level model? Illustrate your explanation with the Dutch example.
4. Prepare to state the differences between lexical and postlexical rules in terms of
   i. reference to morphological labels
   ii. exceptions
   iii. structure preservation
   iv. native-speaker intuition
   v. application across word boundaries
   vi. order of application

   Illustrate your discussion with examples.
5. Represent the model of phonological grammar as advocated by Lexical Phonology (including the phonetic implementation rules).

B. TONES AND AUTOSEGMENTAL PHONOLOGY

1. Consider the realization of tone in Vata phonology. Why cannot the appearance of the low tone in the perfective forms be satisfactorily explained by employing the SPE approach? In what way does autosegmental phonology appear to be superior in accounting for the realization of tone in Vata phonology?
2. Consider the realization of tone in Igbo phonology. Why cannot the appearance of falling tone before a low tone be satisfactorily explained by employing the SPE approach? What is the solution offered by autosegmental phonology? In what way does this approach appear to be superior to that of linear phonology?
3. What is the Absolute Slicing Hypothesis? Why does the Absolute Slicing Hypothesis fail? Discuss.
4. Justify the concept of "autosegmental level".
5. What is the Well-Formedness Condition?
6. Stability: Argue for the existence of "stability" as a natural consequence of the autosegmental system. Illustrate your discussion with the analysis of the Etsako example.

C. FEATURE GEOMETRY: EXPLOITING THE FEATURE TREE

1. Distinguish between the two general approaches to phonological features.
2. Evaluate the list of places of articulation in relation to the phonological patterning of [v].
3. Discuss the following statement:

   The various places of articulation are not phonologically equidistant.

   Provide an example.

4. Identify the two problems in connection with the describing of the vowels with a system that radically differs from the one employed for consonants.
5. What is Halle's (1983) view concerning features? Discuss and provide an example.
6. Provide two arguments justifying the Articulator Model.
7. Provide the two arguments against the following misconception with regard to the generative model:

   The features may freely combine in the construction of a phonemic inventory as well as in defining natural classes of segments in phonological rules and constraints.
8. Examples of feature trees generated from segments are shown on pp. 148 and 149. You will be asked to identify *two* segments presented in a similar way to the ones in these examples.
9. You will be asked to explain the two types of *single-feature assimilation* (feature-filling and structure-changing) as presented in figures 6a,b,c and 7a,b,c. These figures will be reproduced for you on the exam sheet.

D STRESS AND PROMINENCE

1. Can stress be considered as being realized by some phonetic parameter (such as the feature [coronal] is associated with articulation by the tip or the blade of the tongue)? How do Liberman and Prince (1977) define stress?
2. State the way stress is represented in the metrical tree. Provide an example.
3. Demonstrate your understanding of prosodic hierarchy by drawing the metrical tree of the utterance: *Many linguists go to Essex.*
4. Why is the linear approach to stress is unsatisfactory? Discuss by referring to the Latin example analyzed in class.
5. A parametric theory of relative prominence: List and describe the four parameters relevant to account for the different stress patterns in natural languages.

E PHONOLOGICAL PROBLEMS: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARGUMENTATION

There will be one phonological problem in which you must (i) account for the variation present in the data, (ii) refer to the relevant phonological process(es), (iii) formulate maximally general phonological rule(s), and (iv) give derivations. Provide arguments for your proposed solution.

F. BONUS QUESTION

Formulate a maximally general rule for the Vowel Reduction Process in Chamorro (the data will be provided to you at the exam).