Contents

Preface ix

Ι	Lan	guage	
	I.I	What is language?	I
	1.2	Some definitions of 'language'	
	1.3	Language-behaviour and language-systems	3
	I.4	Language and speech	11
	1.5	The semiotic point of view	17
	1.6	The fiction of homogeneity	24
	1.7	There are no primitive languages	27
		Further reading	31
		Questions and exercises	31
2	Ling	uistics	
	2. I	Branches of linguistics	34
	2.2	Is linguistics a science?	37
	2.3	Terminology and notation	46
	2.4	Linguistics is descriptive, not prescriptive	47
	2.5	Priority of synchronic description	54
	2.6	Structure and system	59
		Further reading	64
		Questions and exercises	64
3	The .	sounds of language	
	1.8	The phonic medium	66
_	3.2	Phonetic and orthographic representation	69
	3.3	Articulatory phonetics	72
	3.4	Phonemes and allophones	84
_	3.5	Distinctive features and suprasegmental	•
		phonology	89
	3.6	Phonological structure	95
		Further reading	98
		Questions and exercises	98

4 Grammar	
4.1 Syntax, inflection and morphology	100
4.2 Grammaticality, productivity and arbitrariness	104
4.3 Parts of speech, form-classes and grammatical	
categories	109
4.4 Some additional grammatical concepts	113
4.5 Constituent-structure	117
4.6 Generative grammar	124
Further reading	129
Questions and exercises	131
5 Semantics	
5.1 The diversity of meaning	136
5.2 Lexical meaning: homonymy, polysemy, \bigcirc	
synonymy	144
5.3 Lexical meaning: sense and denotation	151
5.4 Semantics and grammar	156
5.5 Sentence-meaning and utterance-meaning	163
5.6 Formal semantics	170
Further reading	175
Questions and exercises	176
6 Language-change	
6.1 Historical linguistics	179
6.2 Language-families	184
6.3 The comparative method	192
6.4 Analogy and borrowing	201
6.5 The causes of language-change	207
Further reading	213
Questions and exercises	213
7 Some modern schools and movements	
7.1 Historicism	216
7.2 Structuralism	218
7.3 Functionalism	224
7.4 Generativism	228
Further reading	235
Questions and exercises	236

8 Lang	guage and mind	
8.1	Universal grammar and its relevance	238
8.2	Mentalism, rationalism and innateness	242
8.3	Language and the brain	248
8.4	Language-acquisition	251
8.5	Other areas of pyscholinguistics	257
8.6	Cognitive science and artificial intelligence	262
	Further reading	264
	Questions and exercises	264
9 Lang	guage and society	
9.1	Sociolinguistics, ethnolinguistics and	
	psycholinguistics	266
9.2	Accent, dialect and idiolect	268
9.3	Standards and vernaculars	276
9.4	Bilingualism, code-switching and diglossia	281
9.5	Practical applications	286
9.6	Stylistic variation and stylistics	290
	Further reading	297
	Questions and exercises	298
-	guage and culture	
	What is culture?	301
J 10.2	The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis	303
J. 10.3	Colour-terms	312
10.4	Pronouns of address	317
10.5	Cultural overlap, cultural diffusion and	
	translatability	322
	Further reading	329
	Questions and exercises	330
	Bibliography	333
	Index	351