



LIN 001: Introduction to Linguistics (Spring 2024)

Midterm Exam Study Guide - Sections A05 and A06

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Agenda

- 1. Midterm Exam Reminders**
2. Study Guide

The Midterm Exam: Date, Time, Location

- Date: Wednesday, May 8th, 2024

- Time: 4:40-5:40pm Pacific Time

- IMPORTANT: The midterm will only be 1 hour long! (Not the full 80 mins).

- Location: Peter A. Rock Hall 194 (our regular lecture hall)

The Midterm Exam: Format and Content

- 12 short-answer questions (no multiple choice)
- Covers Weeks 1-4
- You will have access to these 3 charts (see the “Exam Charts” folder on Canvas):
 - (1) Vowel IPA Chart
 - (2) Consonant IPA Chart
 - (3) Phrase-Structure Rule Chart

The Midterm Exam: Grading

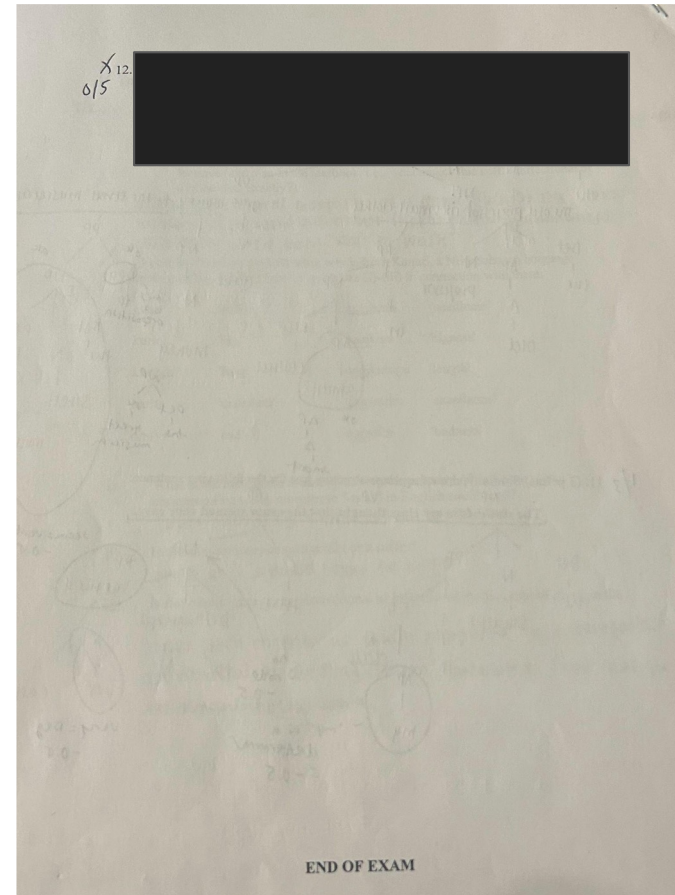
- **Uncurved, worth 30% of your final grade**
- 50 total points (includes a 2 point bonus)
- For most questions, there is a single, unambiguous correct answer
 - Partial credit may be awarded, but note that your answer must be substantively correct to receive partial credit (points will not be awarded merely for effort).

The Midterm Exam: Study Materials

1. Lecture Slides (Files -> Lectures)
2. Discussion Slides (Files -> Discussion -> Nick's Discussion (A05 + A06))
3. Exam Charts (Files -> Exam Charts)

The Midterm Exam: Tip #1

- On the right: A screenshot of a page on a student's midterm exam from Fall 2023 (question redacted).
- Do not leave any questions blank!
 - If you are not sure of the answer but still make an attempt, I may be able to award some partial credit.
 - **However, if you leave questions blank, then my hands are tied - I cannot give you more than 0 points.**



The Final Exam: Tip #2

- Only write as much as you need to!

- Full sentences are only necessary when we ask you to either: (a) provide a definition and/or an example; (b) explain your reasoning; (c) answer a question starting with “why” or “how”.

- Even when full sentences are necessary, don't write too much! You will never have to write more than 2 sentences for any question.

- Remember: We are grading you on correctness, not on the length of your responses!

The Final Exam: Tip #3

- Manage your time effectively! **[You will very likely need the full amount of time.]**
 - At the start of the exam period, flip through *the entire exam* so that you know what to expect.
 - Every 20 minutes, we will be writing down how much time is left on the chalkboard. Make sure that you are paying attention to what we are writing and that you are timing yourself appropriately.
 - Do not spend too much time on any question. If you can't remember the answer, skip the question and go back to it later.
 - Each question is worth a certain number of points, and this information will be made clear to you on the exam. If you are running out of time, prioritize questions that are worth more points.

My Office Hours

- All office hours will be held in Kerr 261.
- Thursday, May 2nd: 12-3pm
- Monday, May 6th: 10am-1pm
- Tuesday, May 7th: 10am-1pm, 2pm-6pm
- I will not be holding office hours on the day of the exam (May 8th), but we will do some extra practice during discussion.

My E-mail Policy

- You can e-mail me with questions (nbaoki@ucdavis.edu), but many concepts are explained more easily in-person at office hours.
- I will try my best to reply to your e-mails as soon as possible, but please note that after May 7th, I may not have time to respond to you before the midterm exam.

Agenda

1. Final Exam Reminders

2. Study Guide

Week 1 - Introductory Concepts: Key Skills

1. Basic knowledge about systems of animal communication and what makes language uniquely human (Week 1 Lecture: Slides 8-11).
2. Understand what makes language arbitrary for the most part (Week 1 Lecture: Slide 37), and know some non-arbitrary exceptions (Week 1 Lecture: Slides 18-19).

Week 2 - Phonetics + Phonology: Key Skills

1. Use the IPA charts to write phonetic descriptions of various consonants.
2. Use the IPA charts to write phonetic descriptions of various vowels.
 - For Skills 1 and 2 - Week 2 Discussion: Slides 7-35
3. State the environment of two allophones (Week 2 Discussion: Slides 48-63).

Week 3 - Morphology: Key Skills

1. Identify stems from words (Week 3 Discussion: Slides 6-9).
2. Use morphological data to: (i) identify the morpheme corresponding to a particular meaning; (ii) state whether the change is grammatical or lexical; (iii) state the morphological process taking place (ex. prefixation, infixation, etc.).
 - i) Week 3 Discussion: Slides 11-12
 - ii) Week 3 Discussion: Slides 15-18
 - iii) Week 3 Discussion: Slide 10
3. State the morphological process taking place within a set of data (Week 3 Discussion: Slide 10; Note that this is the same as “iii” in the previous skill).

Week 3 - Morphology: Key Skills Continued

4. State the conditioning factor for allomorphs (Week 3 Discussion: Slides 24-30).
5. Explain whether a morphological change shows derivation or inflection and explain why (Week 3 Discussion: Slides 15-18).
6. Identify common inflectional categories from a table (Week 3 Discussion: Slide 19).

Week 4 - Syntax: Key Skills

1. Identify the possible interpretations of ambiguous sentences (ex. Jane saw the man with the binoculars) and draw a phrase-structure tree for each interpretation.
 - Explanation of how the PS rule chart works (Week 4 Discussion: Slides 9-29)
 - Step-by-step walkthroughs for drawing trees (Week 4 Discussion: Slides 31-47)
 - Review of syntactically ambiguous sentences (Week 4 Discussion: Slides 51-54)

Good Luck!

**Please come to my office hours
if you need help with anything!
[See Slide 10 above for the full schedule.]**

**Remember that your midterm exam is on
Wed, May 8th from 4:40-5:40pm in Peter A. Rock Hall
194!**