**Seminar 7. Pragmatics.**

**Outline**

1. Definition and Scope of Pragmatics.

2. Aim of Pragmatic Studies.

3. Main Tasks of Pragmatics.

4. Major Approaches to Pragmatics.

5. Evolution of Pragmatic Studies.

6. Practical Value and Applications.

## **Task 1. Identifying Speech Acts** *Read each utterance and identify the illocutionary act (e.g., request, apology, order, complaint, promise, refusal, compliment, threat, invitation, advice, etc.).*

| **No.** | **Utterance** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | “Could you possibly lend me your notes?” |
| 2 | “I swear I’ll never do it again.” |
| 3 | “You must leave the building immediately.” |
| 4 | “I’m terribly sorry for being late.” |
| 5 | “Let’s go for coffee after class.” |
| 6 | “If you touch that file, you’ll regret it.” |
| 7 | “That presentation was really impressive.” |
| 8 | “Why don’t you talk to her directly?” |
| 9 | “No, I can’t help you today.” |
| 10 | “Make sure to submit the report by Friday.” |
| 11 | “Welcome to our team!” |
| 12 | “Can I buy you dinner tonight?” |
| 13 | “Don’t forget to turn off the lights.” |
| 14 | “You’d better take an umbrella.” |
| 15 | “I hereby declare the conference open.” |

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## **Task 2. Interpreting Conversational Implicatures**

*For each dialogue, choose the most logical* ***implied meaning*** *(A–D).  
 Each situation reflects an indirect or context-based inference.*

| **No.** | **Dialogue** | **Implied meaning** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | A: “Do you like my new haircut?”  B: “It’s very… unique.” | A. It’s wonderful.  B. It’s terrible.  C. It’s expensive.  D. It’s long. |
| 2 | A: “Will you join us for the meeting?”  B: “I have a dentist appointment.” | A. I’ll be late.  B. I can’t come.  C. The dentist is your boss.  D. I’ll see. |
| 3 | A: “How did your exam go?”  B: “Let’s not talk about it.” | A. It went very well.  B. It went badly.  C. It’s postponed.  D. It was easy. |
| 4 | A: “Can you pass me the salt?”  B: “Sure.” | A. Testing ability.  B. Making a request.  C. Giving order.  D. Offering help. |
| 5 | A: “Do you know the time?”  B: “It’s 4 p.m.” | A. Question about knowledge.  B. Request for information.  C. Insult.  D. Command. |
| 6 | A: “I’m out of gas.”  B: “There’s a station around the corner.” | A. Advice.  B. Refusal.  C. Warning.  D. Irrelevance. |
| 7 | A: “Can you clean the board?”  B: “I’m not tall enough.” | A. Refusal.  B. Excuse.  C. Joke.  D. Information. |
| 8 | A: “Do you like sushi?”  B: “Well, I don’t *hate* it.” | A. I love it.  B. I dislike it.  C. It’s okay.  D. I’ve never tried it. |
| 9 | A: “Would you like some dessert?”  B: “I’m on a diet.” | A. Yes.  B. No.  C. Maybe.  D. Ask me later. |
| 10 | A: “How was your date?”  B: “He was polite.” | A. Excellent.  B. Boring / disappointing.  C. Romantic.  D. Funny. |

## **Task 4. Deixis in Context**

*Each sentence contains one or more deictic expressions. Identify the type of deixis involved: (a) Person deixis, (b) Place deixis, (c) Time deixis, (d) Discourse deixis, (e) Social deixis.*

| **No.** | **Sentence** | **Type(s)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | “I’ll see you there tomorrow.” |  |
| 2 | “This is better than that.” |  |
| 3 | “Now listen to what I’m saying.” |  |
| 4 | “She told me to call her later.” |  |
| 5 | “Ladies and gentlemen, welcome!” |  |
| 6 | “You must read the previous chapter first.” |  |
| 7 | “Come here and sit next to me.” |  |
| 8 | “Back then, we didn’t have smartphones.” |  |
| 9 | “Your Majesty, the car is ready.” |  |
| 10 | “In the next part, I will explain the theory.” |  |
| 11 | “We are meeting them at our office.” |  |
| 12 | “Take these files to that room.” |  |
| 13 | “He said he’d do it yesterday.” |  |
| 14 | “Hey, professor, could you check this?” |  |
| 15 | “I told you this before.” |  |

## **Task 5. Detecting Presuppositions**

*Each sentence presupposes something. Choose what assumption must be true for the utterance to make sense*.

| **No.** | **Sentence** | **Possible Presupposition** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | “John stopped smoking.” | A. John never smoked. B. John used to smoke. C. John smokes now. D. John dislikes smoke. |
| 2 | “Mary’s brother bought a new car.” | A. Mary has a brother. B. Mary doesn’t drive. C. The car is used. D. Mary hates cars. |
| 3 | “When did you call your parents?” | A. You didn’t call. B. You have parents. C. You never call. D. They are abroad. |
| 4 | “I regret lying to her.” | A. I didn’t lie. B. I lied. C. She lied. D. I’m proud. |
| 5 | “He managed to solve the problem.” | A. He failed. B. The problem was difficult. C. There was no problem. D. He cheated. |
| 6 | “I forgot to bring your book.” | A. I borrowed your book. B. I never had a book. C. You have no book. D. You didn’t lend me anything. |
| 7 | “If I were rich, I’d travel the world.” | A. I am rich. B. I am not rich. C. I hate travelling. D. I travelled already. |
| 8 | “The king of France is bald.” | A. France has a king. B. France has no king. C. Kings are bald. D. Baldness is royal. |
| 9 | “Jane’s husband is very tall.” | A. Jane is unmarried. B. Jane is married. C. Jane is tall. D. Jane’s husband is short. |
| 10 | “Even Peter passed the exam.” | A. Peter usually fails. B. Peter is brilliant. C. Peter didn’t take the exam. D. Nobody passed. |

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