Make an attempt to answer all the questions. Do not worry if you find you have little to say about some of the questions, or if you do not have technical terms for the features you wish to describe. Write your answers in the space provided on the paper. Please take care to write clearly. Total marks: 100.

Question 1 [Total value: 30 marks]

The Australian language Murrinh-Patha groups verbs into over 20 classes covering a range of meanings, such as posture and motion, events (hitting, heating, etc.), and the direction of actions. For example, "to chop with the blade of a knife" uses verb-class 23, but "to stab with the point of a knife" uses class 19. Such class-systems can give insights into people's organization of concepts in the world. Murrinh-Patha verb-class words are inflected for person (1/2/3), number (singular/plural), and tense (future/nonfuture). Here are some examples of verb-classes 19 and 27; note that the bracketed English words are not overt in Murrinh-Patha, but are added for clarity. The examples give the English meaning, followed by the structure of the Murrinh-Patha sentence, parsed to show what each element means.

a) "I burned (it)"

nginanam   *pek*
27-1singular-Nonfuture   burn

b) "I cooked (it)"

nginanam   *thi*
27-1sg-Nonfuture   cook

c) "I pierced (it) with a spear"

ngan   *parl*
19-1sg-Nonfuture   pierce

d) "I pointed (it) out"

ngan   *ngkarda*
19-1sg-Nonfuture   point out

e) "I'll fire (the gun) into (it)"

nga   *ruruth*   *nu*
19-1sg-Future   cut into   Future

f) "I'll point (it) out to you"

nga   *mpa*   *ngkarda*   *nu*
19-1sg-Future   you-sg   point-out   Future

g) "I'll straighten the spear (using fire)"

thamul   *ngina*   *yith*   *nu*
spear   27-1sg-Future   straighten   Future

h) "I'll reflect (sunlight) at you"

ngina   *nhi*   *ngkardi*   *nu*
27-1sg-Future   you   reflect   Future

i) "I'm dipping (it) into the honey"

ku   *- tjithay*   *ngan*   *thak*   *ngem*
Animal-Product   - honey   19-1sg-Nonfuture   dip   Continuous

j) "I'll cook the meat for you"

ku   *- ngen*   *ngina*   *mpa*   *thi*   *nu*
Animal-Product   - meat   27-1sg-Future   you-sg   cook   Future

(i)   What sense of direction unites the examples of class 19? [10 marks]

....

....

(ii)   What properties of fire are involved in these examples of class 27? [10 marks]

....

....

(iii)   *Ngkay* means "to poke". How would you say "I'll poke it" in Murrinh-Patha? [10 marks]

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Question 2 [Total value: 40 marks]

The ancient Mycenean Greeks used a non-alphabetic script, Linear B, in which each sign stands for a syllable: either a vowel, or a combination of consonant+vowel. The pronunciations can be inferred from later, alphabetic Greek writing. Here are some Mycenean words, transliterated into the Roman alphabet:
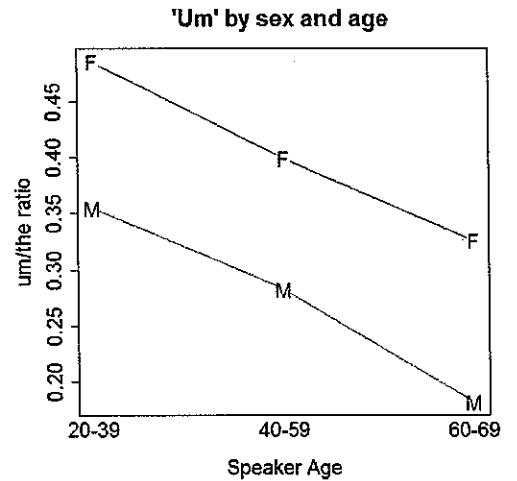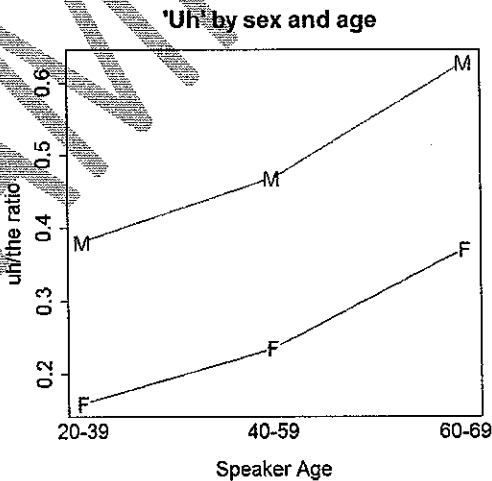
	Syllable signs	Pronunciation	Meaning		Syllable signs	Pronunciation	Meaning
a)	to-pe-za	torpeza	table	h)	ku-su	ksun	with
b)	a-mo-ta	harmota	wheels	i)	ti-ri-po-de	tripode	tripod
c)	a-pi	amphi	on both sides	j)	e-ka-ra	eskhara	hearth
d)	ka-ko	khalkos	bronze	k)	pa-ka-na	phasgana	sword
e)	pa-te	pantes	all	l)	pe-mo	spermo	seed
f)	a-mi-ni-so	Amnisos	(a place name)	m)	qa-si-re-u	basileus	king
g)	ko-no-so	Knosos	(a place name)	n)	ri-no	linon	flax

(i) In what ways do the Mycenean Greek spellings deviate from the corresponding pronunciations?

....

....

.... [20 marks]

(ii) How do you think the words pronounced as follows would have been written in Linear B syllables?

a) arguros .... b) engkhos ....

c) drutomos .... d) khrusos ....

e) subotas .... [20 marks]

Question 3 [Total value: 30 marks]

These graphs plot the frequency with which the pause-fillers "uh" and "um" are used by men (M) and women (F) of different age-groups, relative to the frequency of "the"; i.e. an "uh/the ratio" of 0.5 means that "uh" is used half as often as "the". Note that speakers of all age groups were sampled in the same year.

'Uh' by sex and age

'Um' by sex and age

(i) Describe in words what the graphs reveal. [20 marks]

....

....

....

(ii) What do you infer about how English may be changing? [10 marks]

....

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