

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part II

Wednesday 1 June 2011 1.30 to 4.30

Paper Fr.13

THE FRENCH LANGUAGE: VARIATION AND CHANGE

This paper is for Part II candidates.

Answer THREE questions, ONE from Section A, ONE from Section B and ONE further question chosen from Sections A OR B.

Candidates for this paper may NOT draw substantially on material from their dissertations or material which they have used or intend to use in another scheduled paper. Candidates may NOT draw substantially on the same material in more than ONE question on the same paper.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20-page Answer Book x 1
Rough work pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
None

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator

SECTION A

1 'L'Imaginaire Linguistique ne se contente pas d'être descriptif mais se veut également interprétatif de la mouvance linguistique et de ses causalités internes et externes.' Discuss, comparing this framework of linguistic analysis with Labovian co-variationist sociolinguistics.

2 'Analysing data from a dying language presents special difficulties because one finds several different sources of innovations and they are not all connected with the process of language death.' Discuss with reference to ONE OR MORE variety of French.

3 EITHER (a) 'All instances of language planning face exactly the same problems and tackle them with exactly the same solutions.' Discuss with reference to language planning in France AND/OR the French-speaking world.

OR (b) 'La polynomie est une réponse à la diglossie.' Discuss with reference to France AND/OR the French-speaking world.

4 'The only convincing way to distinguish codeswitches from borrowed words is by examining the sociolinguistic context.' Discuss with reference to at least TWO varieties of French.

5 'The lower stages of Fishman's Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale play a far more important role in reversing language shift than do its higher stages.' Discuss with reference to at least TWO varieties of French.

SECTION B

6 'The nature of regional French may only be truly understood via close analysis of dialect obsolescence and its linguistic correlates.' Discuss, making detailed reference to linguistic data.

7 EITHER (a) 'Linguistic atlases are outdated tools of analysis.' Discuss, making detailed reference to the 'Atlas Linguistique de la France' and ONE other French linguistic atlas.

OR (b) 'Le normand insulaire se distingue du français par sa phonologie.' Discuss, making detailed reference to the development of Latin [k] and at least ONE other phonological feature.

8 'Benedict Anderson's theory of the "imagined community" oversimplifies the relationship between language and national identity.' Discuss with reference to TWO OR MORE varieties of French.

9 'Ernst's list of sources for the history of spoken French provides a comprehensive and reliable framework for observing variation in times past.' Discuss, making detailed reference to linguistic data.

10 'La supposition que l'anglo-normand tardif se soit simplement adapté au modèle syntaxique de l'anglais est entièrement fausse.' Discuss, making detailed reference to linguistic data.

END OF PAPER