

LING 2750 Mid-Term Based on Lectures and Quiz Content, the Discussion Board, as well as from the Readings and Reading Summaries from Weeks 1-7.

This is an open-book essay exam. The only restriction is that each student must complete their essays by themselves. No consulting with classmates or anybody else. Breaking this rule will result in penalties including but not limited to point loss. Obviously, plagiarism will result in an automatic F as well as other potential consequences.

Mid-Term Due: Sunday, October 17 (40 points total [each essay is 20 points each])

Directions:

Choose two of the four Essay prompts below and write a 500-word essay about each using examples from the course content so far. Answers must be typed, double-spaced using 12-point font (Times New Roman) Preferred. More specifically, each of essays must utilize at least 4 of the terms/concepts listed below as examples or to support arguments being made. Each essay must use a DIFFERENT SET of 4-words. Underline each use.

Essay Questions:

1. How would you define the terms language and culture?
2. Explain the concept of linguistic relativity. What is the difference between the strong and weak versions of linguistic relativity?
3. Explain the concept of the arbitrary vs. non-arbitrary nature of signs.
4. What are the different linguistic features that can be used to describe the language of menus?

Some Terms & Concepts from Weeks 1-7:

- Etymology
- PIE (Proto-Indo-European)
- Cognates
- Signifier, signified, sign
- Notational/non-notational symbolic system
- Nature/Culture
- Food taboos
- Sapir-Whorf hypothesis: weak/strong forms of linguistic relativity
- Samoan smell verbs
- Denotation/connotation
- Ideophones, sound symbolism, onomatopoeia
- Orate vs. literate societies
- History of cookbooks
- Linguistic features of recipes (pro-drop, object-drop, anti-passive ergatives, etc.)
- Writing vs. speaking
- Discourse vs. discourse