**BANGOR UNIVERSITY**

**ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Time allowed: 2 hours**

Answer **ANY THREE** of the following questions, supporting your answers with examples wherever possible.

1. How does Standard American English differ from Standard British English? Consider vocabulary, sounds, and grammar/syntax, and explain the notion of a ‘standard variety’ on this basis.
2. “Social media damage people’s ability to write properly”. Discuss this claim with particular reference to the notions of descriptivism and prescriptivism.
3. What difference does it make who we talk to? Using some everyday examples, explain the notion of ‘audience design’.
4. “Women and men do not communicate in the same way”. Discuss the ways in which this statement may be true or have been true at different points in time.
5. How do children acquire their first language – what stages are they typically going through? Consider vocabulary, grammar and sound systems.
6. How do gestures that naturally accompany speech differ from sign languages? What does this tell us about the notion of ‘language’?
7. How and why can languages die? Think of ways in which this happens and ways in which it could be prevented.
8. “The English language declines, we need to stop this development”. Discuss this claim in light of theories of language change.