

# PRIFYSGOL BANGOR BANGOR UNIVERSITY



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## ARHOLIADAU YSGOLORIAETHAU MYNEDIAD 2025 SCHOLARSHIP ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2025

**PWNC / SUBJECT: IAITH SAESNEG / ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Amser a ganiateir: 2 awr / Time allowed: 2 hours.**

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

1. Please summarise the proposed typical linguistic development of a child growing up in a monolingual English home in the UK today between the ages of zero and five years old. Please mention the development of their pronunciation (phonology), their syntax and their vocabulary.
2. How do people use language to express their identity? Please give examples in terms of semantics and syntax. And how do different groups in society expressed their group identity through language? Again, please give examples in terms of syntax and semantics.
3. Are signed languages like British Sign Language (BSL), American Sign Language (ASL), German Sign Language (DSL) real languages? Explain why or why not.
4. It has been claimed by Noam Chomsky and others that only human beings possess and use 'language'. You agree or disagree with this statement? Please give examples to support your position.
5. "Research has shown that in everyday common communication contexts men's and women's speech very similar in terms of sentence type, structure, general vocabulary and expressions". Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Explain why or why not.
6. 'Language change inevitably leads to language decline'. Discussed this claim with particular reference to the linguistic notions of prescriptivism and descriptivism.
7. What is the relationship between thought and language? It has been argued that one's language affects how we construe and thus view the world (aka the Whorfian hypothesis). Please explain the difference between strong versus weak linguistic relativity and if you agree or disagree with Whorf's ideas.
8. It has been claimed that people who speak only one language (i.e., monolinguals) conceptualize and view the world differently than those who speak 2 or more languages (i.e., bilinguals or multilingual's). Do you agree or disagree with the statement?
9. What is the difference between a dialect, sociolect, and an idiolect? Please give examples of all 3 and explain how these play a role in how we construct and express our identity / identities.