

Written Test Pattern and Syllabus

1. Applicants who have a valid score card in national level exams like GATE/UGC-NET/CSIR-NET/NBHM, etc. are exempted from the written test. Such applicants are expected to produce the valid score card while reporting at the institute.
2. The Question Paper consists of two-parts. Part A consists of 50 Multiple Choice Type Questions, each carrying 1 mark. For every incorrect 1-mark question, 1/3 marks are deducted.
3. Part B consists of 10 Multiple Choice Type Questions, each carrying 5 marks. No negative marking for Part B questions.
4. The duration of the examination is 180 mins.

Syllabus for PhD Candidates – English

Specialization: English Language Education/Applied Linguistics

Language teaching methods and approaches: grammar-translation, direct, audio-lingual, communicative, task-based, content-based, total physical response, cooperative learning, the silent way, suggestopedia and post-method era.

Language learning theories: behaviourist approaches, innatist approaches, interaction approaches, cognitive approaches, sociocultural approaches, functional approaches and discourse approaches.

Key concepts in English Language Teaching (ELT): communicative competence, authentic materials, task-based learning, form-focused instruction, language skills, error correction, accuracy and fluency, interlanguage, learner autonomy, task complexity, and cultural awareness.

LSRW skills and sub-skills:

Listening: identifying main ideas, identifying supporting details, comprehension of spoken language, note-taking and other sub-skills related to listening.

Speaking: pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary usage, grammar accuracy, intonation and stress, conversations and other sub-skills related to speaking.

Reading: skimming for main ideas, scanning for specific information, reading for detail, vocabulary acquisition through context and other sub-skills related to reading.

Writing: spelling, grammar and syntax, punctuation, writing a paragraph, summarizing and other sub-skills related to writing.

Language and society: language and dialect, creole and pidgin, language policy, language attitudes, multilingualism, language and identity, language planning, language ideology, and language maintenance or shift.

Language and mind: language acquisition, language processing, metacognition, bilingualism, memory, perception, emotion and neurolinguistics.

Research methodology: qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, experimental, survey, case study, ethnographic, and action research approaches.

Basics of English linguistics: phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.

English grammar: parts of speech, sentence structure, tense and aspect, modifiers (adjectives and adverbs), clauses and phrases, subject-verb agreement, punctuation, and word order.