TRS501 – Linguistics – Dialect

1. Which of the following best defines a dialect, according to the text?

A. A separate language with distinct grammar and vocabulary.
B. A variety of a language spoken in a specific region or by a particular group.
C. A form of speech that is mutually unintelligible with other forms.
D. A language spoken by the upper-class or the educated.

2. The concept of mutual intelligibility refers to:

A. The formal recognition of a speech variety by a governing body.
B. The historical and political separation between two countries.
C. The degree of understanding between speakers of different speech varieties.
D. The complexity and patterns within a dialect's grammar.

3. According to sociolinguist Max Weinreich, what often determines whether a speech variety is classified as a "language" rather than a "dialect"?

A. The degree of mutual intelligibility with neighboring varieties.
B. The presence of social factors like race, education, and age.
C. The existence of political factors, such as "an army and a navy."
D. The judgment of linguists on its correctness and regularity.

4. The text provides Swedish and Norwegian as an example to illustrate that:

A. They are dialects of a larger Scandinavian language.
B. They are mutually unintelligible due to historical differences.
C. Political and historical factors can override linguistic factors in classification.
D. They contain very different words, grammar, and pronunciations.

5. Regional dialects are primarily described as evolving due to:

A. Social divisions like race and gender.
B. Political intervention and government policy.
C. Geographic or sociocultural factors.
D. Being taught in British public schools.

6. Which of the following is an example of a regional dialect given in the text?

A. Upper-class English taught in British public schools.
B. The distinction between Czech and Slovak.
C. The American English dialects of eastern and western New England.
D. The speaking standard required of BBC announcers.

7. Social dialects (or sociolects) are often determined by factors such as:

A. Geographic location and climate.
B. An individual's race, education, gender, and age.
C. Mutual intelligibility and linguistic regularity.
D. Official government classification as a language.

8. The dialect nicknamed "Queen's English" or "BBC English" is a well-known example of a:

A. Regional dialect.
B. Mutually intelligible language pair.
C. Social dialect (sociolect).
D. Foreign language.

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9. The text states that the distinction between social and regional divisions in dialects is often:

A. Clearly defined and absolute.
B. Determined solely by race.
C. Blurry or indistinct.
D. Non-existent, as all dialects are regional.

10. Regarding "correctness" in speech, the text suggests that a dialect's perceived correctness tends to stem from:

A. Linguistic rules and universal patterns of complexity.
B. The social status of its speakers.
C. The official recognition by linguists.
D. Its level of mutual intelligibility with the standard language.

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