

淡江大學 97 學年度博士班招生考試試題

系別：英文學系 B 組

科目：語言學

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1. Polysemous words such as “stand”, can mean being physically upright and also mean “can’t bear” someone or something. Similarly, the word “see”, can mean physically perceiving something with physical eyes and also mean “to understand”, as in “I see what you mean.” Can you explain the principle of such meaning extension? How do words evolve to have several meanings (or senses)? Please also give 3 more examples other than these two words mentioned here where meaning changes from a physical sphere to a mental or abstract sphere (33%)

2. Look at the following sentences:

-John is bringing me some coffee.

-You must take some coffee with you.

-Can you take me to the airport?

-Don’t forget to bring an umbrella.

Words such as “bring” and “take”, like “come” and “go”, are known as deictic verbs. They are fairly basic words and usually do not pose any difficulties to native speakers of English, but rather confusing to L2 learners. Why is that? What grammatical rules dictate the usage of these two words? (33%)

3. How do you explain these two words “weekend” and “holiday” to Martians? (34%)