

# 淡江大學 101 學年度博士班甄試招生考試試題

系別：英文學系 B 組

科目：英 文(含英語語言學議題)

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本試題共 1 大題， 1 頁

The concepts of “iconicity” and “economy” are two general and universal cognitive principles related to the analyzing of language structure. The principle of iconicity in languages requires all the meanings, functions and features in a language system to be overtly/explicitly expressed in the linguistic form. On the other hand, the principle of economy urges for simplicity of linguistic description and analysis. It is argued that the economy principle can be achieved in two ways; first, by making linguistically significant generalizations, and second, by reducing the terminological repertoire.

While “iconicity” and “economy” are usually regarded as two opposing forces which compete and motivate the development of linguistic constructions, in which way they may interplay with each other in the formulation of linguistic parameters? Please discuss these two principles and draw examples from phonological, morphological and syntactic perspectives. (100%)