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Section - A

Ans to the que no-1 (a)

A speech act is a concept in linguistics and philosophy of language that refers to the communicative function or intention behind a spoken or written utterance. It's not just about the words themselves but also the speaker's intent and the effect on the listener.

Speech acts are communicative actions that people perform when they speak or write. There are three main types of speech acts:

1. Locutionary Acts: These are the basic acts of producing sounds, words, and phrases. They are the literal utterances made by a speaker.

Example: Saying "It's raining" to describe the current weather.

2. Illocutionary Acts: These are the intended communicative actions performed by the speaker, such as making a statement, asking a question, giving a command, making a request, offering, promising or expressing an intention.

Example: Making a statement:

"The meeting is at 2pm."

• Asking a question: "Is the meeting at 2pm?"

• Giving a command: "Close the door."

- Making a request: "could you please pass the salt?"
- Offering: "I can help you with that"

3. Perlocutionary Acts: These are the effects or responses that the illocutionary acts have on the listener or recipient. The listener's interpretation and reaction to the speaker's utterance fall into this category. For example, if someone says, "can you pass the book?" you're

action is the perlocutionary act in response to their directive illocutionary act.

Speech acts are a fundamental concept in pragmatics and help us understand how language functions beyond its literal meaning, taking into account the speaker's intentions and the listener's understanding.

Ans to the qus no-2 (b)

Austin's "Felicity conditions" are a set of conditions that must be met for speech acts, such as requests, promises, or commands, to be considered successful or felicitous. They help determine whether a speech act is performed correctly within a given context. There are three main felicity conditions proposed by J.L Austin.

1. Illocutionary Act condition: This condition relates to the type of speech act being performed, whether it's a request, command,

assertion etc. The illocutionary act must be appropriate for the given situation. For example, a request for a favor should be made when it's reasonable to ask for help.

2. Sincerity condition: This condition concerns the speaker's sincerity in performing the speech act. The speaker must genuinely intend to carry out the action or commitment implied by the speech act. For example, when making a promise, the speaker must sincerely intend to fulfill that promise.

3. Preparatory conditions: These are the conditions that must exist in the context before the speech act can be successfully performed. For instance, if you want to request someone to pass the salt at the dinner table, the salt shaker should be within their reach.

These felicity conditions help ensure that communication is effective and that speech acts are understood and acted upon as intended in various social situations.

Section-B

Ans to the qus no-2

(a) In this example, the sense relation is homonymy. The word "bank" in the first sentence refers to the side of the river, while in the second sentence, it refers to a financial institution. These two words are spelled the same but have different meaning.

(b) The sense relation here is synonymy. In both sentences,

the words "board" and "wide" are used to modify the same noun "British accent", indicating that the student's accent is strong or pronounced. The two words are synonyms in this context.

© In this example, the sense relation is homophones. The words "two" and "too" as well as "sick" and "seek" are pronounced the same way but have different meanings and spellings. They are homophones because they

sound alike but are distinct words with different meanings.

(d) The sense relation here is antonymy. In the first sentence, "easy" and in the second sentence, "hard" are used to describe the test and they represent opposite ~~the test~~ meanings. "Easy" means not difficult, while "hard" means difficult, making them antonyms in this context.