**Study questions for Intro Task**

**Send in your answers for all the questions which are in black. For the questions in red, be prepared to discuss them in the seminar – but no need to send them in**

1) Distinguish between semantics and pragmatics, preferably with a language example.

2) Order the following: from smallest (at the top) to largest (at the bottoom

register

pragmatics

phonology

semantics

society

syntax

morphology

3) There are more speech sounds than individual letters to represent them. What does this mean? What proof do you have of this?

4) How many phonemes are there in: salmon, unfriended, developmental

5) Distinguish between /p/ and /b/ & /a/ and /i/. How and where are they made in your mouth?

6) The IPA phonological alphabet is a useful tool for a sociolinguist or a teacher in the classroom. Can you state why and how?

7) Later on in the course, we will learn that pidgins and creoles are more fuzzy in terms of their distinction. But for now … how do they differ

8) Exemplify a morphological error that a low intermediate level learner of English ( a person who is Swedish) might make. Why might she/he make it? How could you help the person not make it?

9) Is Swedish an SVO language? If yes, then when is it not? In what circumstance (if at all) is the VSO construction used?

10) How about syntactic variation in Swedish. From your life, from television … can you think of and exemplify how Swedish syntax varies in some content between 1 person (or group) compared to another person (or group). Describe the variation, the people involved, and explain why how it might have come about?

11) Consider BEV (from the video tutorial) and Rinkabysvenska. In your opinion, are BEV and Rinkabysvenska substandards of English/Swedish? What explanations could you suggest for its evolution.

12) Lord-Lady, Master-Mistress. Do Swedish name titles carry a secondary meaning where the female equivalent has a negative connotation? Can you describe a recent situation of an unfair usage of language in Sweden; that is, language that you heard was sexist in some manner

13) In the study of pragmatics, what is indirect speech. Do Swedes use more or less indirect speech than English? Or the same? How about men and women in your surroundings. If you were to do a quantitative study, what would your hypothesis be regarding indirect speech acts across cultures or across gender.

14) Imagine you were explaining to a pupil … “What a verb is”. What would be your definition? With the definition that you apply, Exemplify 3 prototypical verbs and also 2 verbs which are not prototypical.

15) Some languages, like Czech and Finnish are more ‘morphologically complex’ compared to English and Swedish. What does this mean? Do you speak or know a language which is morphologically very different from English?