

Comprehension Questions

1. How do the findings of the conventional theory differ from that of the recent linguistic research?
2. How do linguists identify language families?
3. What was the objective of the phylogenetic analysis?
4. According to linguists, what part of language resists time?
5. What significance do the so-called cognates have in linguistic analysis?
6. How were the scientists able to track down the evolutionary relatedness of the modern and ancient languages?
7. Why is Prof. Pagel fascinated by the phylogenetic analysis?
8. What other historical findings support the phylogenetic studies?
9. What kind of counter-arguments do we come across in the text regarding the cognate words?
10. Why does Prof. Kallio think that the phylogenetic approach is not reliable for dating the proto-languages?