Appendix A

Interview Schedule

Demographic Profile:

1. What is your name?

2. Can you please tell me about your age?

3. Your Sex:

4. Where do you live?

5. What is your Permanent Address?

6. What is your Educational Qualification:

7. What is your Mother Tongue:

8. What is the Mother Tongue of your Parents:

9. What is your Marital Status:

10. Who are there in your family?

11. What do you do?

12. Where do you study?
13. Do you work also?

14. What work do you do?

15. How long have you been working?

16. Can you please tell me roughly about your monthly income?

17. Can you please give a rough idea about your family’s monthly income?

18. How many female members are there in your family?

19. How many male members are there in your family?

20. What are the educational qualifications of the men in your family?

21. What are the educational qualifications of the women in your family?

22. What is the occupation of your father?

23. What is the occupation of your mother?

24. What does your husband do?

25. What do the other members of your family do?
Questions about Language Use Patterns in Home Domain

26. Do you believe that women and men speak differently?

27. If “Yes”,

27.i. Why do you think so?

27.ii. What differences do you find about the language use patterns of women and men?

28. Can you please tell me how do the male members of your family talk to you?

29. How do you talk to them?

30. About what do you talk to them mostly?

31. About what do they talk to you mostly?

32. What according to you are the most discussed topics among the male members of your family belonging to the same age group?

33. What in your opinion are the topics that the men in your family discuss mostly with the women of the same age group?

34. Do the male members of your family talk to each other in the same way?

35. If “Yes”,

35.i. How do they talk to each other?
36. If “No”,

36.i. What differences do you find in their language use patterns?

36.ii. Why do you think these differences are there?

37. Do the male members of your family talk to all the female members of the family in the same way?

38. If “Yes”,

38.i. What is the nature of their speech pattern?

39. If “No”,

39.i. Why do not they talk in the same way?

39.ii. What differences are found in their language usage?

39.iii. What differences are found in their speaking pattern?

40. Can you please tell me how do the female members of your family talk to you?

41. How do you talk to them?

42. About what do you talk to them mostly?

43. About what do they talk to you mostly?

44. Do the female members of your family talk to each other in the same way?
45. If “Yes”,

45.i. How do they talk to each other?

46. If “No”,

46.i. What differences do you find in their language use patterns?

46.ii. Why do you think these differences are there?

47. How do the female members of your family talk to the male members of the family?

48. What according to you are the most discussed topics among the female members of your family belonging to the same age group?

49. What in your opinion are the topics that the women in your family discuss mostly with the men of same age group?

50. Do you think the male members of your family talk in the same way in public places?

51. If “Yes”,

51.i. Why do you think so?

52. If “No”,

52.i. Why do you think they do not talk in the same way?

53. Do you think the female members of your family talk in the same way in public places?
54. If “Yes”,

54.i. Why do you think so?

55. If “No”,

55.i. Why do you think they talk in different ways?

56. In a family discussion, where everyone is present how do the family members talk to each other?

57. Who in such situations talk more than others?

58. Why do they talk more in your opinion?

59. Which topics are usually discussed in such situations?

60. Which topics are generally discussed among family members representing different generations?

61. Which language does the male members of your family use to interact with other family members?

62. Which language does the female members of your family use to interact with other family members?

63. How do you talk to your servant or maid?

64. How do they talk to you?

65. Have you ever noticed any difference in their language use patterns?
66. If “Yes”,

66.i. What are the differences?

67. Have you ever noticed any difference in their speech pattern?

68. If “Yes”,

68.i. What differences have you found?

Questions about Language Use Patterns in Educational Institutions:

69. Can you please tell me something about your language use patterns with your female friends?

70. How do the female friends of yours talk to you?

71. Can you please tell me something about your language use patterns with your male friends?

72. How do the male friends of yours talk to you?

73. Which issues are mostly talked about with your female friends?

74. Which issues are mostly talked about with your male friends?

75. Which issues are mostly talked about in a male-female mixed-talk situation?

76. Do you think that your male friends and female friends speak differently?

77. If “Yes”,

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77.i. What according to you are the reasons behind this?

78. Who according to you talk more in a mixed-talk situation?

79. What in your opinion is/are responsible for this?

80. How do you talk to your teachers?

81. How do you talk to other people in the educational institution?

82. Which language do you use with your male friends?

83. Which language do you use with your female friends?

84. Which language do you use with your teachers?

85. Which language do you use with all other people in your educational institution?

86. Have you ever noticed any gender difference in language in your texts?

87. If “Yes”,

87.i. What differences have you found there?

Questions about Language Use Patterns in Workplace:

88. Which language do you use mostly at your workplace to interact with your female colleagues?
89. Which language do you use mostly at your workplace to interact with your male colleagues?

90. Which language do you use most of the time to talk to your boss/superiors?

91. Which language do you use mostly to interact with the subordinate people at workplace?

92. Which language do your female colleagues use mostly to interact with all the females at workplace?

93. Which language do your female colleagues use mostly to interact with all the males at workplace?

94. Which language do your male colleagues use mostly to interact with the males at workplace?

95. Which language do your male colleagues use mostly to interact with the female colleagues at workplace?

96. How do you talk to your female colleagues?

97. How do you talk to your male colleagues?

98. What speech pattern do you follow to talk to your boss?

99. How do you talk to your subordinates?

100. How do your male colleagues talk to you?

101. How do your female colleagues talk to you?
102. How does your boss talk to all the subordinates?

103. At workplace, which issues are discussed more often among the men?

104. At workplace, which issues are discussed more often among the women?

105. At workplace, which issues are discussed more often among both the men and women?

106. Do you find differences in the language use patterns of men and women at your workplace?

107. If “Yes”,

107.i. What differences do you find exactly?

107.ii. What according to you are the reasons behind this?

107.iii. In which spheres do you find the differences mostly?

Questions about Gender Differences in Language Use Patterns

108. Do you think there is existence of “Women’s Language”?

109. If “Yes”,

109.i. What in your opinion are the features of women’s language?

110. How does it differ from that of “Men’s Language”? 

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111. Do you think that all the women in our society follow women’s language?

112. If “Yes”,

112.i. Why do you think so?

113. If “No”,

113.i. What do they follow then?

113.ii. How the rest of the society treats them?

114. If men do not follow their stereotypical speech patterns, how do others treat them?

115. Do you think that language facilitates construction of gender identity?

116. If “Yes”,

116.i. What are the reasons behind this thought?

116.ii. How does language facilitate gender identity?

116.iii. What other factors help in this process?

117. Do you think that learning a language is determined by gender?

118. Do you think that usage of language is determined by gender?

119. Can you please provide some examples of this?

120. Do you know about “Sexist Language”?
121. If “Yes”,

121.i. What do you know about this?

121.ii. Who are more likely to use this language?

121.iii. What are some examples of sexist language?

121.iv. Have you ever experienced such language?

122. If “Yes”,

122.iv.i. Where did you experience it?

122.iv.ii. From whom did you experience it?

122.iv.iii. Have you ever tried to resist the use of such language?

122.iv.iv. If “Yes”,

122.iv.iv.i. What did you do to resist it?

122.v. Do you yourself use such language?

If “Yes”,

122.v.i. Why do you use such language?

122.v.ii. Where do you use such language?

123. Do you think that Bengali language facilitates construction of gender identity?
124. If “Yes”,

124.i. Why do you think so?

125. Can you give examples of some Bengali words that according to you are gendered in nature?

126. Do you think that sexist language reinforces patriarchal dominance in the society?

127. If “Yes”,

127.i. Can you please explain how does it do so?

Questions about Gender Differences in Language Use Patterns according to Social Class

128. What is your idea about the role of Education in gender differences in language use patterns?

129. What is your idea about the role of Employment in gender differences in language use patterns?

130. What is the role of our social position in affecting the ways we use language?

131. What in your opinion are the bases of our social class?

132. Do the differences in social position impact the language usage of both women and men?

133. Do women having same degree of education speak in the same way?
134. If “Yes”,

134.i. What is the reason behind this?

135. If “No”,

135.i. Why don’t they speak in the same way?

136. Do women belonging to different education background and level speak differently?

137. If “Yes”,

137.i. Why do they speak differently?

137.ii. Can you please give some examples?

138. If “No”,

138.i. Why do you think so?

139. Do men belonging to different education background and level speak differently?

140. If “Yes”,

140.i. Why do they speak differently?

140.ii. Can you please give some examples?

141. If “No”,

138.i. Why do you think so?
142. Do women from same occupational background follow same language use patterns?

143. If “Yes”,

143.i. Why do you think so?

144. If “No”,

144.i. Do they speak differently then?

144.ii. What differences do you find there?

145. Do men from same occupational background follow same language use patterns?

146. If “Yes”,

146.i. Why do you think so?

147. If “No”,

147.i. Do they speak differently then?

147.ii. What differences do you find there?

148. How do women from different occupational background speak with each other?

149. How do men from different occupational background speak with each other?

150. Do women from same income group speak in the same way?

151. If “Yes”,

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151.i. Why do they speak in the same way?

152. If “No”,

152.i. What differences do you find then?

152.ii. Why these differences are there?

153. How do women from different income group use language with each other?

154. Do men from same income group speak in the same way?

155. If “Yes”,

155.i. Why do they speak in the same way?

156. If “No”,

156.i. What differences do you find then?

156.ii. why these differences are there?

157. How do men from different income group use language with each other?

158. Do you believe that socio-economic background of a woman is reflected through her language use in both private and public sphere?

159. If “Yes”,

159.i. How is it reflected?
If “No”,

160.i. Why do you think so?

161. Do you believe that socio-economic background of a man is reflected through her language use in both private and public sphere?

162. If “Yes”,

162.i. How is it reflected?

163. If “No”,

163.i. Why do you think so?

164. Do you think over time gender differences in language use decrease?

165. If “YES”,

165.i. How does it decrease?

165.ii. What factors help in this process?

166. If “No”,

166.i. Why doesn’t it decrease over time?

167. What is your opinion about gender-neutral vocabularies?

168. Can you please give some examples of this?
169. Do you use such vocabularies yourself?

170. If “Yes”,

170.i. Why do you use such vocabularies?

171. If “No”,

171.i. Why don’t you do so?

172. Do the female members of your family use such vocabularies?

173. Do the male members of your family use such vocabularies?

174. Do your female friends use such words while interacting with others?

175. Do your male friends use such words while interacting with others?

176. Do the male colleagues of yours use such words?

177. Do the female colleagues of yours use such words?