

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2011**

**B.A. DEGREE**

**TITLE OF PAPER: Introduction to the Study of Language II**

**COURSE NUMBER: AL 112/IDE-AL112**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
- 2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
- 3. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

## Section A

### SYNTAX

*Answer Question 1 and EITHER Question 2 OR Question 3.*

#### QUESTION 1

Consider the following sentence:

**Joshua repaired the refrigerator in the garage.**

- a) This sentence is syntactically ambiguous. State two (2) meanings that arise from this ambiguity. [10 marks]
- b) Draw one (1) complete phrase structure tree for each of the meanings in (a). [15 marks]

#### QUESTION 2

- a) Choose one of the trees in Question 1(b). For this tree, identify one example of direct domination and justify your choice. [7 marks]
- b) Apply the cleft test to the direct object NP in each of the trees in Question 1 (b) and give the result. [10 marks]
- c) For each of the results in (d), state how clefting removes the ambiguity. [8 marks]

#### QUESTION 3

- a) Choose one of the trees in Question 1(b). For this tree, identify one example of two nodes which are sisters and justify your choice. [7 marks]
- b) Passivize the direct object NP in each of the trees in Question 1 (b) and give the result. [10 marks]
- c) For each of the results in (b), state how passivization removes the ambiguity. [8 marks]

## Section B

### SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

*Answer any TWO Questions from this Section*

#### QUESTION 4

- a) H.P. Grice formulated a set of Cooperative Principles which underlie language use.
- i) Name each of these principles (4)
  - ii) With the aid of examples explain any **three** of these principles. (9)
- b) i) What does the term antonym mean? (2)
- ii) With the aid of examples discuss fully **three** types of antonyms (10)

[25 MARKS]

#### QUESTION 5

- a) Consider the sentence below and then answer the questions that follow.

*I order you to meet me here tomorrow afternoon.*

- i) What kind of direct speech is this? Why do you say so? (2)
- ii) Give **TWO** conditions that would make this sentence felicitous. (4)

- iii) What is the locution of the statement? (1)
  - iv) What is one of its illocutions? (1)
  - v) What is one of its perlocutions? (1)
  - vi) Give all deictic expressions used in the statement above and name the type of each one of them. (6)
- b) With the aid of examples explain the similarities and differences between any **TWO** of the following sets of concepts
- i) entailment and paraphrases
  - ii) contradiction and antonyms
  - iii) polysemy and ambiguity (10)

[25 MARKS]

**QUESTION 6**

- a) With the aid of examples discuss either the Referential Theory of Meaning or the Mentalist Theory of Meaning and show how it fails to capture a complete definition of what meaning really is. (5 marks)
- b) From the sentences below (i) identify all the arguments (NPs) and (ii) state the thematic roles played by each of those arguments you have identified.
- i) My mother gave me a book.
  - ii) They received manna from Heaven
  - iii) We left Mbabane for Manzini at noon.
  - iv) She opened the door with a spanner

v) She died.

(10 marks)

c) With the aid of examples from English explain the difference(s) between any **THREE** of the following pairs of concepts.

i) intention and extension

ii) homonyms and synonym

v) gradable antonyms and relational antonyms

vi) contradiction and ambiguity

vii) locution and illocution

(10 marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**