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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION
2005

COURSE TITLE : LANGUAGE MEANING AND USE

COURSE CODE : ENG 203

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. This paper consists of four questions.**
- 2. Answer any two questions.**
- 3. All questions carry 20 marks each.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION TO DO SO.

LANGUAGE MEANING AND USE

1. For every interaction to be successful, speakers need to adhere to the basic rules of talk. Grice (1989) advocates four maxims that govern talk. With the aid of two examples each, discuss these maxims in ways that show that you understand them.

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2. Meaning is either referential, social and/or affective. With the aid of one example each, discuss these meanings and further identify the types of meanings entailed in the following sentences.

- a) For the paper he presented, he consulted a number of sources.
- b) 'When will Swazis ever learn that one has to sweat in order to achieve one's goals.'
- c) Journey through the pages of this profound book, you will find valuable information.
- d) 'Please, pass me the salt.'
- e) My gardener is nothing but a thief.

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3. All words have sense, but not all of them have reference. With the aid of four examples ascertain the truth of this statement.

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4. The semantic relationship that exists between lexemes is among others synonymy, hyponymy, antonymy and hypernymy. With the aid of two examples each, differentiate between a synonymous, hyponymous, antonymous and a hypernymous relationship. Also discuss at least three reasons behind the synonymous relationship of pairs of lexemes.

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