

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

JULY 2005

COURSE TITLE : LANGUAGE MEANING AND USE

COURSE CODE : ENG 203

TIME ALLOWED : TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

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

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

LANGUAGE MEANING AND USE

1. Consider the following utterance.

Mrs. Zondo: Damn it! What's up with you? How many times will I tell you to use a steam iron whenever you are pressing my clothes? Look what you have done! This is expensive material, not this emahiya you Shangaans wrap around your waists.

~~Antonatte~~ : I am sorry, madam.

Mrs. Zondo: I can't stand this, I just can't. I have been too patient with you. Pack your plastic bags and leave, now.

Discuss the following aspects of the speaking situation and rely on the utterances above for your illustrations.

- a) the utterance
- b) speakers and hearers
- c) social distance

2. Sentences entail, among other things, presuppositions and implicatures.

- i) What are presuppositions and how are they different from implicatures?
- ii) In the sentences below, indicate whether a presupposition or an implicature is entailed and further explain the meaning behind that presupposition and/or implicature you have identified.
 - a) Can you pass me the soup, please?
 - b) I tried to study for the test.
 - c) Your supervisor was here looking for you.
 - d) Gcinile wants to marry at the age of 21.
 - e) You cannot expect to pass with such low grades. [20]

3. With the aid of two examples each, discuss the three types of sentences. From this discussion, indicate the types of sentences represented below.

- i) Both of Jabu's parents are married to my aunts.
- ii) His neighbour's dogs savagely stung her.
- iii) Tomatoes are easy to grow and taste delicious in salads.
- iv) Patients at the Hope House are those suffering from aids related illnesses.
- v) When I die, I would prefer to walk to the cemetery to save the cost of a hearse.

[20]

4. Discuss the rules of talk under the following topics.

- i) the rule-goverdness approach
- ii) the rule-following approach
- iii) the rule-using approach

[20]