

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2005**

<b>TITLE OF PAPER</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ADVANCED COMPOSITION: READING AND TEXTUALITY</b>
<b>COURSE CODE</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>ENG 401</b>
<b>TIME ALLOWED</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>TWO (2) HOURS</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONS</b>	<b>:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. ANSWER QUESTION ONE PLUS TWO OTHER QUESTIONS</b></li> <li><b>2. EACH QUESTION IS 20 MARKS</b></li> </ol>

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION IS GIVEN  
BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

1. Reading experts generally agree that “more information” is contributed by the reader than by the print on the page”. Describe the five most common sources of information responsible for shaping a reader’s experience with a text. /20/
  
2. Define the following linguistic terms associated with the reading process:
  - a) Inferencing
  - b) Coherence
  - c) Cohesion
  - d) Schemata
  - e) Speech act(s) /20/
  
3. Working with the title of a text is one previewing activity for establishing expectations about the content of the text. Discuss five other strategies readers use to sample ideas presented and establish a mental framework for reading. /20/
  
4. Examine each of the following texts: some are excerpts and some are complete texts. State:
  - a) the kind of text it is.
  - b) where it comes from (source).
  - c) characteristics that made you think the text comes from the source you listed. /20/

*Text A*

Scientists have found that the Earth's lower atmosphere is laced with rivers of water vapor rivaling the Amazon in their flow.

Those rivers "are the main mechanism by which (atmospheric) water gets transported from the equator to the poles," said Reginald E. Newell of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who reports on the findings in the American Geophysical Union journal *Geophysical Research Letters*.

He said the concentrated streams, releasing not only moisture but latent heat in higher altitudes, may turn out to be the main sources of hurricanes.

Climatologists have long understood that warm air rises from the Earth's equatorial regions and drifts toward the poles along a course slightly offset by the motion of the Earth's spin. The surprise is that the moisture is confined in narrow streams.

A space-shuttle instrument spotted five rivers in the Southern Hemisphere, four or five in the Northern Hemisphere. Flowing at no more than 1.9 miles above Earth's surface, they stretch typically to lengths of 4,800 miles or so; widths ranged from 420 to 480 miles. The flow volumes typically measured 364 million pounds of water per second, comparable to an average Amazon flow.

*Text B*

Ideology is expressed in the educational systems of any society. Educational systems, like any cultural system, are always historically situated, that is, a product of particular cultural and historical forces. Thus, what students are taught about any subject necessarily values certain aspects of that subject over others. While this process of selection is inevitable, it is not uniform either across cultures or within a given culture at a particular time. Foucault argues in his essay "The order of Discourse" (1971) that "any system of education is apolitical way of maintaining or modifying the appropriation of discourses, along with the power and knowledge they carry" (p.64). Consequently, the education system can be as much a means of repressing certain groups of people as it is a means of empowering others. While many students and educators may be intuitively

aware of the repressive as well as the enabling function of education, it is only when we begin to investigate systematically the ideological reasons underlying the way in which students are taught that we might possibly begin to change these educational inequities.

*Text C*

This was great! Thank you very much! I want my own copy – next time we go to Boarders.

Also – ordering from Penny's Tall, I finally found a pair of slacks that eventually fit! I don't believe it!

I am eternally grateful to you for those two discoveries.

P.S.... We look forward to Sat. – see you soon.

*Text D*

The high grey-flannel fog of winter closed off the Salinas Valley from the sky and from the rest of the world. on every side it sat like a lid on the mountains and made of the great valley a closed pot. On the broad, level land floor the gang plows bit deep and left the black earth shining metal where the shares had cut. On the foothill ranches across the Salinas River, the yellow stubble fields seemed to be bathed in pale cold sunshine, but there was no sunshine in the valley now in December. The thick willow scrub along the river flamed with sharp and positive yellow leaves.

It was a time of quiet and of waiting. The air was cold and tender. A light wind blew up from the southwest so that the farmers were mildly hopeful of a good rain before long; but fog and rain do not go together.

Across the river, on Henry Allen's foothill ranch there was little work to be done, for the hay was cut and stored and the orchards were plowed up to receive the rain deeply when it should come. The cattle on the higher slopes were becoming shaggy and rough-coated.

Elisa Allen, working with her flower garden, looked down across the yard and saw Henry, her husband, talking to two men in business suits. The three of them stood by the tractor shed, each man with one foot on the side of the little Fordson. They smoked cigarettes and studied the machine as they talked.

5. Describe the five-part classification of SPEECH ACTS by John Searle (1965).

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