

**THE UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND THE INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE**  
**EDUCATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**  
**MAIN EXAMINATION**  
**5<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2006**

**TENT 2**

**COURSE TITLE    CONVERSATIONAL ANALYSIS**

**COURSE CODE: ENG 303**

**TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTION**

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF FOUR QUESTIONS. YOU ARE  
REQUIRED TO ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS.  
EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 30 MARKS**

### QUESTION 1

Ethnomethodologists have proposed, and rightly so, that there is order and structure even in the most mundane of interactions.

What are the main features of conversation that make the claim a valid one. Discuss with examples. Your discussion should tap into the features of conversation such as adjacency pairing, turn-taking, cooperation strategies, politeness etc. Be careful, not to describe the features but rather show how the features confirm the claim. You may find looking at these interactions (one marked another unmarked) helpful.

*Conversation between a teacher and a pupil*

- T: Good morning Alex!  
S: Good morning Mr. Dlamini  
T: What can I do for you so early in the morning?  
S: Sir, my assignment, is,-- was stolen from my bag so-  
T: --so you cannot hand it in Ya! Isn't it typical?  
S: Please sir, I have another copy on the computer It's a matter of reprinting.  
T: Two minutes, I give you-- starting from now so leave my office  
S: Thank-you Sir you are kind.

### QUESTION 2

From the recorded conversations we have done on this course, what would you say make up the features of radio-based conversations. What are the constraints of such conversations.

### QUESTION 3

Write short notes on each of the following as significant features of conversation.

- a) Face and Politeness
- b) Turn taking
- c) Grice's maxims of cooperation
- d) Repair and preference organisation

### QUESTION 4

- a) What is the view held about Gender and conversation. To what extent is this view true to your own culture. (15)
- b) Discuss three salient points you have found persuasive about conversation. (15)