

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER
DECEMBER 2007

TITLE OF PAPER: GRAMMAR I: A SURVEY OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR

COURSE CODE: ENG 101

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. THIS PAPER HAS SIX QUESTIOS**
- 2. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
- 3. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH TWENTY (20) MARKS**
- 4. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR GOOD ENGLISH, ORDERLY PRESENTATION AND APPROPRIATE USE OF LINGUISTIC CONVENTIONS.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR

QUESTION 1

(a) Discuss five (5) properties of human language that make it distinct from other forms of communication.

(10 Marks)

(b) Explain in detail the distinction between 'Open Class' Items and 'Closed System Items'. Illustrate your answer with relevant examples

(10 Marks)

[Total: 20]

QUESTION 2

Discuss the structural functions of the following conjunctions, and illustrate your answer with appropriate examples:

- (a) Coordinating conjunctions
- (b) Conjunctive Adverbs
- (c) Subordinating conjunctions
- (d) Correlative Conjunctions

[Total: 20 Marks]

QUESTION 3

(a) Give the five characteristics of pronouns, and exemplify each with relevant examples.

(10 marks)

(b) Identify the class of each of the words underlined below. Support your choice with good reasons.

(i) We were given hard rocks to break as punishment.

(ii) My mother works very hard

(iii) She is going to win the award.

(iv) She is pretty.

(v) She is a traveling agent.

(10 marks)

[Total 20 marks]

QUESTION 4

Draw tree diagrams for the following sentences:

- (a) The man kicks the ball. (2)
- (b) My mother collects my sister from school everyday. (4)
- (c) He is a very strong and highly energetic child. (4)
- (d) That path turns and twists up the steep hill. (4)
- (e) The traveling group does not have the required documents for travel.

QUESTION 5

Discuss the syntactic functions of the following word classes:

- (a) Nouns (12 Marks)
- (b) Adjectives (8 marks)

Illustrate each function with relevant examples.

[Total: 20 Marks]

QUESTION 6

Give reasons why adjectives and adverbs are difficult to understand in isolation. Illustrate each reason with appropriate examples.

[Total 20 Marks]