

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION

DECEMBER 1, 2009

- TITLE OF PAPER:** GRAMMAR 1: A SURVEY OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR
- COURSE CODE:** ENG 101
- TIME ALLOWED:** TWO (2) HOURS
- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. THIS PAPER HAS FOUR QUESTIONS
 2. QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY
 3. CHOOSE THE SECOND QUESTION FROM QUESTION 2 TO 4
 4. QUESTION 1 IS WORTH 40 MARKS, AND THE OTHER QUESTIONS ARE WORTH 20 MARKS.
 5. PRESENTATIONS OF ANSWERS SHOULD FOLLOW LINGUISTIC CONVENTIONS WHERE APPROPRIATE.
 6. GOOD LANGUAGE WILL ATTRACT CREDIT.

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Question 1 (Compulsory)

- a) Explain what you understand by variable nouns and invariable nouns. Support your answer with relevant examples.

(10 marks)

- b) Discuss in detail two syntactic functions of the adjective in English. Use appropriate examples to illustrate your answer.

(10 marks)

- c) Write five grammatical structures that function as Determiners. And give one example of each within a noun phrase.

(5 marks)

- d) What is the distinction between closed system items and open class items?

(10 marks)

- e) Briefly discuss the prescriptive approach to the study of language.

(5 marks)

[40 marks]

Question 2

- a) Pronoun Case & Verb Tenses:** (16 pts) Use appropriate subjective case pronouns to conjugate the verb *think* in the following tenses:

- (i) 1st person singular, simple past:

- ii) 2nd person plural, past perfect progressive:

- iii) 3rd person plural, present progressive:

- iv) 3rd person singular, future perfect:

v) 1st person plural, simple present:

vi) 2nd person singular, past perfect:

vii) 3rd person singular (neutral gender), future progressive:

viii) 3rd person plural, present perfect:

b) Revisiting pronoun types – give two examples of each pronoun type listed below. (4 pts)

i) Possessive: _____

ii) Indefinite: _____

iii) Reflexive: _____

iv) Interrogative: _____

[20 marks]

Question 3

Morphologically adverbs and adjectives are said to be difficult to understand in isolation. Discuss.

[20 marks]

Question 4

Explain the following concepts in detail. Use one example to explain each concept:

- i) Coordinating conjunctions & subordinating conjunctions (5)
- ii) Transitivity and Voice (5)
- iii) Auxiliary verbs and linking verbs (5)
- iv) The adjunct (5)

[20 marks]