

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION

MAY 2010

- TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX
- COURSE CODE: ENG 202
- TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS
- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. This paper has four (4) questions, and Two pages
  2. Question 1 is compulsory.
  3. Choose one other question from Question 2 to Question 4.
  4. Question 1 is worth forty (40) marks and Questions 2- 4 are worth twenty (20) marks.
  5. The presentation of answers should follow linguistic conventions and appropriate language structures.
  6. Good language will attract credit.

**This paper should not be opened until permission has been granted by the invigilator.**

### Question 1 (Compulsory)

(a) Briefly explain the following morphological and syntactic concepts, and illustrate each with one example:

- |                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| (i) morphophonemic rules       | (2 marks) |
| (ii) phrase structure rules    | (2 marks) |
| (iii) free and bound morphemes | (2 marks) |
| (iv) transformational rules    | (2 marks) |
| (v) derivational morphology    | (2 marks) |

[10 marks]

- (b) (i) What is *conversion*? (5 marks)

(ii) Use each of the following words in two sentences showing that each word can be used as two distinct syntactic categories without any affixation process.

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| A. worship | (2 marks) |
| B. fish    | (2 marks) |
| C. produce | (2 marks) |
| D. race    | (2 marks) |
| E. orphan  | (2 marks) |

[15 marks]

(c) Draw phrase structure trees for the following sentences:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (i) Stop the nonsense!                           | (3 marks) |
| (ii) The guy next door is a weirdo.              | (6 marks) |
| (iii) Hardworking people always work in silence. | (6 marks) |

[15 marks]

[40 marks]

### Question 2

Discuss in detail *compounding* and *affixation* – major processes of word formation. [20 marks]

### Question 3

(a) What is *ambiguity*? Give one sentence that has an ambiguous meaning, and the two possible meanings it contains.

(5 marks)

(b) Name three (3) aspects of a speaker's syntactic knowledge represented in phrase structure trees.

(6 marks)

(c) Write out the phrase structure rules that the following abbreviates:

**VP ----- V (NP) (PP) (Adv) (Adj)**

(9 marks)

[20 marks]

### Question 4

(a) Draw the hierarchical structure of the following words:

(i) eagerly (2 marks)

(ii) friendly (2 marks)

(iii) reappearance (3 marks)

(iv) unpalatable (3 marks)

(10 marks)

(b) Describe fully the morphemes underlined below:

(i) They stole my father'ss car.

(ii) The driverer lost control of the vehicle.

(iii) We moveded last weekend.

(iv) They attached movable property.

(v) We live in his parental home.

(vi) I like my nationality.

(vii) He was very disrespectful.

(viii) They left quietly.

(ix) She is a friendly person.

(x) He performed a courageous act.

(10 marks)

[20 marks]