

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

52

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2011

NAME OF COURSE : **GRAMMAR II – PHRASES AND CLAUSES**

COURSE CODE : **ENG 201**

DURATION : **TWO HOURS**

INSTRUCTION : **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

QUESTION 1

- a) With the aid of examples, discuss the different realizations of the noun phrase in an English sentence. [15 marks]
- b) Create the following texts:
- i) A sentence where the modal verb expresses a desire that was never realised.
 - ii) A sentence where a noun phrase is a prepositional complement and the pair functions as an adverbial indicating time.
 - iii) A sentence that has an absolute phrase.
 - iv) A sentence that has a participial phrase modifying a subject NP.
 - v) A sentence that has one modal, three primary auxiliaries preceding a finite lexical verb. [5marks]

TOTAL [20 marks]

QUESTION 2

A phrase is defined as a group of words used as a single part of speech.

- a) What are the three characteristics of a phrase entailed in the definition above? [3marks]
- b) What are the limitations of such a definition? [2 marks]
- c) Using the noun phrase and the nominal clause as examples, discuss the relationship between phrases and clauses in sentence structures. [10 marks]
- d) Discuss the nature and the syntactic function of the underlined phrases below

- i) He scolded the students who failed her test throughout the day.
- ii) Jumping over a hurdle, the runner tripped.
- iii) Postponing studying for a test has disastrous consequences.
- iv) Those who arrive late cannot be admitted until the interval.
- v) We really enjoy the funny stories he tells.

[5marks]

TOTAL [20 marks]

QUESTION 3

Most heads of adverb phrases are formed by suffixing /-ly/ to the end of the head word of an adjective phrase.

- a) Give two examples to illustrate the above. [2 marks]
- b) Why is the method described above NOT a reliable way to find out whether a word is an adverb or not? [6marks]
- c) What is the best way to tell that a word(s) is an adverb phrase? [6 marks]
- d) With the aid of two examples each, discuss the following:

i) Frequency adverb phrases

ii) Purpose adverb clauses

[4 marks]

- e) With the aid of examples, show how adverb phrases are realized in sentences. [2 marks]

TOTAL [20 marks]