

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX

COURSE CODE: ENG 202/ IDE- ENG 202

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. This paper has four (4) questions.

2. Question 1 is compulsory.

3. Choose one other question from Questions 2 to Question 4

4. Question 1 is worth forty (40 marks) and Questions 2-4 are worth twenty (20) marks each.

5. Presentation of answers should follow linguistic conventions where necessary, and good language will attract credit.

This paper is not to be opened until permission has been granted by the invigilator.

QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

(a) Identify the word-formation process by which the following words have been formed:

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|----------|
| (i) | Dangerous | [1 mark] |
| (ii) | AIDS | [1 mark] |
| (iii) | smog | [1 mark] |
| (iv) | steamboat | [1 mark] |
| (v) | enthuse | [1 mark] |

[5 marks]

(b) Draw the hierarchical structures of the following words:

- | | | |
|-------|--------------|-----------|
| (i) | foolishness | [3 marks] |
| (ii) | clearance | [2 marks] |
| (iii) | unsystematic | [3 marks] |
| (iv) | writing | [2 marks] |

[10 marks]

(c) Discuss the following morphological and syntactic concepts. Illustrate your answer with appropriate examples:

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-----------|
| (i) | Transformational Rules | [2 marks] |
| (ii) | Phrase Structure | [2 marks] |
| (iii) | Free and bound morphemes | [2 marks] |
| (iv) | Root and stem | [2 marks] |
| (v) | Tag question | [2 marks] |

[10 marks]

(d) Discuss three (3) ways one would determine a phrase structure. Illustrate your answer with examples.

[15 marks]

[Total: 40 marks]

QUESTION 2

(a) Describe in full the underlined morphemes.

Example: players[-s]> plural marker inflectional suffix.

(i) parental

(ii) seriously

(iii) friendly

(iv) discontinue

(v) auto bank

(vi) players

(vii) crys

(viii) mother's

(ix) revis

(x) rewrite

[10 marks]

(b) What do you understand by the following: (your response should be furnished with examples).

(i) Acronymy

[2 marks]

(ii) Back-formation

[2 marks]

(iii) Clipping

[2 marks]

(iv) Rule productivity

[2 marks]

(v) Universality of compounds

[2 marks]

[10 marks]

QUESTION 3

(a) Draw tree diagrams for the following phrases and sentences:

(i) [across the street] [3 marks]

(ii) [a moderately old woman] [4 marks]

(iii) A beautiful lady won a prize. [5 marks]

(iv) Go out now! [3 marks]

[15 marks]

(b) Write a phrase structure rule for the VP constituent. Illustrate with an example and then draw a phrase structure diagram for the example. [5 marks]

QUESTION 4

(a) Give two (2) ways you would test whether a sequence of words is a compound or free phrase. Illustrate with example. [10 marks]

(b) Discuss in detail affixation as a major word-formation process. [10 marks]