

106

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**MAIN EXAM**

**MAY 2012**

**COURSE NAME : CONVERSATIONAL ANALYSIS**  
**COURSE CODE : ENG 303 /IDE ENG 303**  
**DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS**  
**INSTRUCTION : ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS IN ALL.**  
**QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION TO DO SO.**

## QUESTION 1

- a) Using the transcript of a recorded conversation enclosed, give a narrative account of the conversation clearly showing the major differences between spoken and written discourse. [15marks]

Skylar and Will sit together along with Will's gang. The boys are considerably drunk, but it makes for good entertainment. Everyone here is having fun, including Skylar.

- 1 MORGAN Will, I can't believe you brought Skylar here when we're all wrecked.  
2 What's she gonna think about us?  
3 WILL Yeah, Morgan. It's a real rarity that we'd be out drinkin'.  
4 BILLY I've been shit faced for like two weeks.  
5 CHUCKIE When my uncle Marty drinks, you know, he'll go on a bender for eight,  
6 six months  
7 WILL Yeah  
8 CHUCKIE Did I ever tell you what happened to him when he was drivin' up there  
9 and he got pulled over?  
10 I told you guys, right? About uncle Marty Let me tell you what happened  
11 to my uncle Marty because you ought to know this .  
12 MORGAN He's always telling stories when we're here. Every time we come here,  
13 he's got another story, but we all heard this one. Go ahead, just say it  
14 anyway, go ahead.  
15 CHUCKIE I will go ahead, thanks a lot. I guess I have the floor now, em  
16  
17 CHUCKIE Er Yeah My uncle Marty is driving home, right? Bombed out of his tree,  
18 right? Just hammered out of his gourd. Just whacked! State trooper sees  
19 him and pulls him over. So, my uncle's fucked, basically, They got him  
20 outta the car and trying to make him walk the line. He gets out of the car  
21 and, you know pukes on the guy. Statie's pretty sure he's over the legal  
22 limit. So, he's about to throw the cuffs on him and put him in jail. All of  
23 the sudden, fifty yards down the road there's this huge fuckin' BOOM  
24 right? So, Statie gets real spooked and then turns around.  
25 MORGAN A gunshot  
26 CHUCKIE No, some some some You heard the story before.  
27 BILLY Yeah Morgan, stop it.  
28 CHUCKIE Some other guy's car had hit a tree. Okay, there was an accident.  
29  
30 (Skylar laughs )  
31 Anyway ....  
32  
33 MORGAN [ How could he hear the other guy if he wasn't right behind him.  
34 CHUCKIE [ Shut up, shut the fuck up Okay I'm gonna break your neck.  
35 BILLY [You're driving me nuts Morgan. Shut up You're driving me nuts  
36 Morgan.  
37 WILL He told you the story once before.  
38  
39  
40 CHUCKIE So he tells my uncle "Stay here. Don't move" So Staties goes runnin'  
41 down the road to deal with the other accident. After a few minutes of just  
42 lying in his own piss and vomit my uncle starts wonderin what he's doin  
43 there. Gets up, gets in his car and just drives home. Well the next  
44 morning, my uncle's just passed out and he hears this knocking on the  
45 door it's the Statie. So he goes downstairs and fuckin pulls the door open.  
46 "What"? It's the State's trooper that pulled him over . States said "Fuck  
47 you mean, what?" You know what? I pulled you over last night is what.  
48 And you fuckin took off. He's like "bitch I've never seen you before in  
49 my life. I 've been home all night with my kids. I don't know who the

50 fuck you are." He said, " you know who I am. Let me get in your garage.  
 51 My uncle says, "What?" He said "Let me get in your garage". "All right,  
 52 fine". Takes around the garage and opens the door --and there is the  
 53 Statie's cruiser is (laughs) The Statie's police cruiser is in my uncle's  
 54 garage.

55  
 56 (Skylar laughs )

57  
 58 CHUCKIE IS that fucking unbelievable? He was so fucking hammered, he drove the  
 59 wrong car home. And the best part about it is The fuckin' Trooper was so  
 60 embarrassed he didn't do anything. Cause he'd been drivin' around in my  
 61 Uncle's Chevelle looking for the house.  
 62 MORGAN All right Chuck. What the fuck is the point of your story?  
 63 CHUCKIE Well, he got away. That's the point  
 64 MORGAN All right, well, question Are you  
 65 WILL Come on, stop it  
 66 MORGAN [I'm trying to clarify something 'cause you're too embarrassed  
 67 BILLY [You're embarrassing her  
 68 MORGAN to ask 'cause you know it doesn't make any sense  
 69 BILLY It does make sense if you listen to the story and quit asking questions  
 70 SKYLAR Morgan, let's see if you can get this one. I've got a little story for you.  
 71 All right  
 72 There's an old couple in bed. Mary and Paddy...  
 73

b) From the interaction above, discuss the organization of turn-taking. [15 marks]  
**TOTAL [30 marks]**

**QUESTION 2**

Give an insight into the effects of sex, personality and culture on the turn-taking mechanism. [30 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

What do you understand by the following conversational phenomena and how are they key to conversation.

- i) TCU/TAC [6 marks]
- ii) Conversation repairs [6marks]
- iii) Topic change/shift [6marks]
- iv) Interruptions. [6marks]
- v) Pre allocation [6marks]

**TOTAL [30 marks]**

**QUESTION 4**

Below is a conversational excerpt from a doctor patient consultation. (Hutchby I. & Woofit R. 2008:211)

1. Dr: Very good. (0.4) Very good=lemme see your ankle.
2. (2.2)
3. Dr: pt. .hhh VERY GOOD
4. (1.1)
5. Pt: I wanna ask you som'n
6. Dr: What's that.
7. (0.6)
8. Pt: pt. .hh(0.5) I have- (0.6) this second toe (.)
9. That was broken. (0.4) But I went to the podiatrist
10. (.) because I couldn' find a doctor on th' weekend.
11. (0.4) An' he said it wasn't broken.=it was.
12. So it wassn' (.) taken care of properly. .hh 'n when
13. I'm on my feet, I get a sensation in it.
14. I mean is anything (th't) can be do:ne?
15. Dr: How long ago d'ju break it.
16. Pt: Mmh two years.
17. Dr: Yih c'd put a metatarsal pad underneath it...

- a) Would you say lines 1-3 constitute an adjacency pair? Why? [5marks]
- b) What is the significance of the utterance in line 5? [5marks]
- c) What is the relationship between the statement the patient makes in line 5 and the ones he makes in lines 8 -13? [5marks]
- d) What is the significance of the utterance in line 14? [5marks]
- e) What are the speech maintaining cues that have been used in the above interaction? Support your claims by means of examples. [10 marks]

**TOTAL [30 marks]**