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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**  
**SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATION**

**MAY 2014**

**COURSE NAME:            CONVERSATIONAL ANALYSIS**  
**COURSE CODE:            ENG 303 / IDE-ENG303**  
**DURATION:                TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. This paper consists of four (4) Questions.**
- 2. Question 1 is compulsory.**
- 3. Choose one other question from Question 2 to Question 4.**
- 4. Question 1 is worth thirty (30) marks and Questions 2-4 are worth twenty (20) marks each.**
- 5. Credit will be given for answers that are clear, grammatically well-constructed and follow linguistic conventions where necessary.**

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INVIGILATOR**

**QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)**

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**ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**

(a) Using relevant examples, explain the following:

- (i) Constatives [2]
- (ii) Performatives [2]
- (iii) Illocutionary act [4]
- (iv) Adjacency pair [6]
- (v) Chordal overlaps [4]

(b) Which maxims of the Cooperative Principle are being violated in the following dialogues? Indicate which conversational implicature this leads to.

i. J: Are we going to eat soon? I'm hungry.

K: In a minute. I just have to fry the liver.

J: Suddenly, I've lost my appetite.

ii. A: Mrs. Johnson is an old witch.

B: It's wonderful weather for this time of the year, don't you think? [5]

(c) Indicate which felicity conditions for the illocution 'promise' are being violated in the following utterances:

- i. I promise you that cars have four wheels.
- ii. I promise that I will poison you tomorrow.
- iii. I promise to help you more tomorrow although I am planning to sleep the whole day.
- iv. (Said to a stranger who is standing at a bus stop with the speaker)
- v. I promise that I will not use the word 'goldfish' today. [4]

(d) What is the difference between conversational analysis and discourse analysis? [3]

**[TOTAL: 30 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 2**

With relevant examples discuss why 'language' and 'marriage' can also be seen as institutions.

**[20 marks]**

**QUESTION 3**

Grice's (1975) Cooperative principle goes both ways: the speakers (generally) observe it and listeners (generally) assume the speakers are observing it. This allows for the possibility of implicature. With the aid of examples, discuss the failures of each of the Gricean maxims.

**[20 marks]**

**QUESTION 4**

Discuss Brown and Levinson's concept of face.

**[20 marks]**