

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER
JULY, 2015

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH 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 thirty (30) marks and Questions 2-4 are worth twenty (20) marks each.
5. Presentation of answers should follow linguistic conventions where necessary, and good language use 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 using one example:

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-----------|
| (i) | Allomorph | [2 marks] |
| (ii) | Morphophonemic rules | [2 marks] |
| (iii) | Canonical sentence | [2 marks] |
| (iv) | Clause element | [2 marks] |
| (v) | Copulative compound | [2 marks] |

(b) Distinguish between borrowing as a word-formation process and borrowing as it is used in everyday language. [2 marks]

(c) Explain what is meant by the nativisation of loanwords. [3 marks]

(d) Give one morphological process that can be used to nativise loan words in English. Illustrate your answer using one example. [5 marks]

(e) (i) Explain what is meant by ambiguity. [2 marks]

(ii) Write one sentence that is ambiguous, and give two possible meanings it contains. [3 marks]

(iii) Draw phrase structure trees that represent each of the meanings contained by the sentence you gave above. [5 marks]

[TOTAL: 30 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

(a) Briefly explain what affixation is, as a word-formation process. [5 marks]

(b) Explain why affixation is said to be a highly productive word-formation process in English. Illustrate your answer using one derivational prefix and one derivational suffix of your own. [5 marks]

(c) Form five words using each of the following affixes to show that affixation is indeed a highly productive word-formation process:

(i) /-al/ [2 ½ marks]

(ii) /mis-/ [2 ½ marks]

(d) Give two other word-formation processes that are highly productive in English, and explain why they are highly productive. Give examples to illustrate your answer.

[5 marks]

[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

Draw phrase structure trees for the following syntactic structures:

(a) James cooked tasty and cheap lasagne when Harry came to the flat. [6 marks]

(b) The warm lasagne which James had cooked had suddenly been served to his very important guests because it was scrumptious. [10 marks]

(c) [the cottage by the edge of the lake] [4 marks]

[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

Discuss the following concepts. Use examples to illustrate your answers.

(i) Phonologically conditioned allomorphs [5 marks]

(ii) The word-formation process of blending [5 marks]

(iii) Deep structure and surface structure [5 marks]

[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]

[5 marks]

(iv) The Passive Transformational Rule