

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES/INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION – JULY 2016

COURSE TITLE : CONVERSATIONAL ANALYSIS

COURSE CODE : ENG 303

TIME : TWO HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS : THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF FOUR
QUESTIONS.**

**ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS IN TOTAL,
QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER**

ALL QUESTIONS ARE WORTH 30 MARKS EACH

**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE TRANSCRIPTION
CONVENTIONS COMMON TO CONVERSATION
ANALYTIC RESEARCH MAY RESULT IN A LOSS
OF MARKS**

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

QUESTION 1 - COMPULSORY

The Western Apache of east-central Arizona are described as a people who remain silent in times of uncertainty. They are silent on meeting strangers, whether these are fellow Western Apache or complete outsiders; and the strangers are expected to be silent as well. The Western Apache do not easily enter into social relationships [talk is a social action], and silence is deemed appropriate to a new relationship because such a relationship is felt to be inherently uncertain.

Children returning from government boarding schools are greeted with silence and the children themselves are expected to be silent. Silence is maintained until each person once again becomes accustomed to the presence of the others. When one is disciplined verbally, silence is again the appropriate response, even though the cussing out may be undeserved. ... The initial stages of courting behaviour also require silence... it is an indication of the shyness that is expected between two people attempting to enter into a close relationship. Talkativeness is regarded as immodest.

Silence is also observed after someone dies. People are expected to be silent in the presence of people who are sad, and one should not disturb those who are already disturbed by grief ... (Adapted from Wardhaugh, 1998, p. 243)

Ethnomethodology is concerned with 'cultural know how', that is, what people need to know in order to survive in a culture. With close reference to the text above, explain the kinds of cultural know how involved in the ethnomethodology of communication among the Western Apache.

(30 marks)

QUESTION 2

With the aid of examples, unpack and briefly discuss the following conversational aspects:

FPP+SPP=ADP (5 marks)

TCC (5 marks)

TAC (5 marks)

Hogging the floor (5 marks)

Sequence closing thirds (5 marks)

Post mortems (5 marks)

(30 marks)

QUESTION 3

With the aid of examples, discuss pre-expansions in talk. (30 marks)

QUESTION 4

- a) Turn taking is the bedrock for every conversation. With close reference to the excerpt below, outline a model for describing how speakers manage turn-taking in ordinary conversation.

L1 Andile: da::d, c'n I come with you to the Soweto derby?

L2 Sam: how much do ju hev?

L3 Andile: da::d! I haven't got no money

L4 Sam: then ju can't (15 marks)

- b) With close reference to the excerpt below, discuss the sequence of a conversation, paying particular attention to preferred and dispreferred responses.

L1 Lear : Good morrow to you both

L2 Regan : [Hail your grace]

L3 Cordelier: [Hail your grace]

L4 Lear : Ask for forgiveness

L5 Do you but mark how this become house

L6 (kneels) Dear daughter I confess that I'm old;

L7 Age is unnecessary: on my knees I beg

L8 That you'll vouchsafe me reiment, bed and food

L9 Regan : Good, sir, no more: these unsightly tricks

L10 : Return to my sister

L11 Lear : (rising) Never, Regan , NEVER!

(15 marks)

(30 marks)