

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND



**Faculty of Humanities
Department of English Language and Literature**

MAIN EXAMINATION – MAY, 2018

COURSE TITLE : CONVERSATION ANALYSIS

COURSE CODE : ENG 314/303
IDE-ENG 314/303

DURATION : 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.

ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE EXCERPT PROVIDED.

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE LINGUISTIC AND CONVERSATION ANALYSIS CONVENTIONS MAY RESULT IN A LOSS OF MARKS

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

((George Bush has been talking to China's representative Hu Jintao about how long it will take him to fly home))

Bush: ((leans over to Russian President)) it takes him eight hours to fly home

Putin: {xxxxx xxxxx}

Bush: Eight hours

Putin: {I bet} {xxx xxxx xxxx}

Bush: Russia's big and so's China

Putin: {xxxx xxxx}

((Tony Blair approaches George Bush. He puts his arm on his chair and leans towards him))

Bush: {Yeah} Blair what are you doing?

Blair: I'm just {xxxx}

Bush: Are you leaving?

Blair: No no no no no yet on this trade thingy {I've been meaning to

Blair: say}{xxxxxxxxxxx} {something like that or }

Bush: {Yeah I } told that to {xxxx}

Blair: And are you planning to say that here or not?

Bush: If you want me to=

Blair: =Well it's just that if the discussion [arises]

Bush: {I just want} some movement

Blair: Yeah

Bush: Yesterday I didn't see much movement

Blair: No no but it may be there's not (.) it may be that it's

Blair: {impossible but }

Bush: {I'm prepared to say it}

Blair: But it's just (.) I think that we need to be, is in

Blair: {a position }

Bush: {Who's introducing} the trade?

Blair: Angela (.)

Bush: Tell her to call on me=

Blair: =Okay

Bush: Tell her to put me on the spot (.) and thanks for the sweater awful

Bush: thoughtful of you

Blair: {(laughs)} It's a pleasure {(laughs)}

Bush: I know you picked it out yourself=

Blair: =Oh absolutely in fact I knitted it

Blair: {(laughs)}

Bush: {(laughs)}

Bush: What about Kofi then? what sort of xxxx {I don't xxxxx ceasefire} plan

Bush: his attitude's basically ceasefire and everything resolves (.) but (-) you

Bush: know what I'm saying

Blair: Yeah no I think the the really important thing is and it's really difficult

Blair: is that (.) you can't stop this unless you get this

Blair: international business agreed }

Bush: {Yeah}

Blair: I don't know what you guys have talked about about Israeli er but as I

Blair: say I'm perfectly happy to try to (.) see (.) what it what the lie of the

Blair: erm I-land is but you need that done quickly

Blair: {because otherwise it will spiral}

Bush: {yeah she's going }

Bush: I think Condi's going to go pretty soon

Blair: Right well that's (.) that's that's all that matters but (.) if you (.) you

Blair: see it will take some time to get that together} (-)

Bush: {yeah } {yeah }

Bush: yeah

Blair: But at least it gives people at sh{ot }

Bush: {It's} a process, I agree

Blair: at which {she an an}

Bush: {it told her } your offer too {to xxx xxx}

Blair: Well it's it's only if it's I mean you know if she's got a (.) or if she

Blair: needs the ground prepared as it were (.) cos obviously if she goes out

Blair: she's got to succeed as it were whereas I can go

((Bush starts eating a cracker))

Blair: out and just {talk }

Bush: ((Whilst eating)) {you see} the irony is what they need to do is get Syria

Bush: to get Hezbollah to come and stop doing this shit and it's over

Blair: {xxxxxxxxx} }

Bush: {(who is) }

Blair: {xxx} {Syria}

Bush: {Why?}

Blair: Because I think this is all part of the same thing=

Bush: =Yeah

Blair: What does he think? He thinks if Lebanon turns out fine if you get a

Blair: solution in Israel and Palestine (.) Iraq goes in the right way

Bush: Yeah yeah he's {through}

Blair: He's had it and that's what the whole thing is about it's the same with

Blair: He's had it and that's what the whole thing is about it's the same with

Blair: Iran

Bush: I felt like telling Kofi to call to come get on the phone to {xxx} as-

Bush: Assad and make something happen

Blair: Yeah

Bush: {Because then Israel} {xxxxxxxxxxxxx}

Blair: {xxxxxxxxxxxxx}

Bush: We are not blaming (.) the Lebanese government

((Blair touches the microphone in front of him and the sound is cut))

QUESTION 1 – COMPULSORY

Conversations are guided by one unwritten golden rule; 'one person talks at a time.'

Using appropriate examples from the excerpt enclosed, discuss:

- a) the purpose of the golden rule. [5marks]
- b) the thesis that the 'one at a time' feature in participants' conversation is not to assert that it is invariably achieved. It is NOT prima facie. [25 marks]

QUESTION 2

- a) With close reference to the interaction provided, discuss the differences between:
 - i) a turn construction component (TCC)
 - ii) a turn distribution or allocation component (TDC/TAC)
 - iii) a transition relevance place (TRP). [15 marks]
- b) With close reference to the excerpt given, discuss the nature and significance of each of the post expansions therein. [15 marks]

QUESTION 3

Write short notes on the following and use examples drawn from a hypothetical interaction.

- a) Dispreferred SPP [5marks]
- b) A conditional relevance [5marks]
- c) A situational adjustment [5marks]
- d) Overlaps [15marks]

QUESTION 4

- a) With the aid of examples, discuss the explicit and non-explicit methods of speaker selection. [15 marks]
- b) Discuss the measures that are used by the utterer of a base FPP in order to maximize the occurrence of a sequence with a preferred SPP. [15 marks]