



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

LANGATA CAMPUS

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SCHOOL FOCUSED PROGRAMME

ENG 201: MORPHOLOGY AND ENGLISH SYNTAX

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Date: April 2015

Duration: 2 Hours

Instructions: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions

- Q1. a) State the main issues in each of the following debates about the nature of language by the ancient Greeks.
i) Nature vs. Convention
ii) Analogy vs. Anomaly
(4 marks)
- b) Explain five effects of the comparative method on the development of modern theoretical linguistics.
(10 marks)
- c) With the aid of clear examples, distinguish the following senses of the term 'word'.
i) The orthographic word
ii) The lexeme
iii) The word-form
iv) The grammatical word
v) The semantic word.
(10 marks)
- d) Explain and exemplify four different types of sentences based on the number and types of clauses in them.
(6 marks)
- Q2. a) Draw a phrase marker (tree diagram) for Noam Chomsky's famous sentence Colourless green ideas sleep furiously.
(10 marks)
- b) With the aid of your diagram in (a), state five kinds of syntactic information that can easily be obtained from a tree diagram at a glance.
(10 marks)

- Q3. a) Briefly explain and exemplify the following terms in syntax:
- i) Phrase
 - ii) Clause
 - iii) Parataxis
 - iv) Hypotaxis
 - v) Deep Structure
 - vi) Surface Structure
- (12 marks)**
- b) For each of the following sentences, explain and exemplify a different constituency test to demonstrate that the underlined form is a phrase.
- i) That is my brother.
 - ii) A woman with braids is stalking me.
 - iii) Those people at the bus-stop are my relatives.
 - iv) My sister gave me a book
- (8 marks)**
- Q4. a) With the aid of two clear examples each, demonstrate understanding of Nida's Principle 1 and 2 namely;
- i) Forms with the same meaning and the same sound shape in all their occurrences are instances of the same morpheme
- (5 marks)**
- ii) Forms with the same meaning but different sound shapes may be instances of the same morpheme if the distributions do not overlap.
- (5 marks)**
- b) Explain the following classifications of language based on morphological typology:
- i) Analytic languages
 - ii) Synthetic languages
 - iii) Infixing Languages
 - iv) Incorporating languages
 - v) Agglutinative languages.
- (10 marks)**
- Q5. a) With the aid of clear examples, distinguish the following terms in morphology:
- i) Morph
 - ii) Empty Morph
 - iii) Zero Morph
 - iv) Portmanteau Morph.
- (8 marks)**

b) Use the following language data to answer the questions below:

i) Identify the morphemes for the following:

Present tense

Past tense

Look

Die

(4 marks)

ii) List two alternate forms that correspond to each of the following:

Laugh

Walk

Cook

Tear

(8 marks)

END