

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Kedua

Sidang Akademik 1999/2000

Februari 2000

HET 123 - A Study of Language

Masa: [3jam]

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THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS EIGHT [8] QUESTIONS ON THREE [3] PAGES.

Answer ALL the questions.

SECTION A

1. Define and illustrate the terms *free variation* and *complementary distribution*.

[10 marks]

2. Describe how the following consonantal articulations are produced and provide all the English consonants that fall in each category.

- a. Fricatives
- b. Plosives
- c. Affricates

[10 marks]

3. Examine the set of words given below and answer the questions that follow.

*plant, sell, dead, lily, rob, alive, top, steal, take, oak, buy, bottom, purchase*

- (a) Name all the possible semantic relationships that exist among the words.
- (b) Define three of the semantic relationships and support your answer by giving examples.

[15 marks]

4. Discuss the terms 'arbitrariness' and 'creativity' as they are used to describe the properties of human language.

[15 marks]

5. What kinds of word-formation processes do the following words undergo?

- (a) pickpocket
- (b) edit
- (c) gas
- (d) urinalysis
- (e) absogodamnlutely
- (f) smog
- (g) Kleenex
- (h) smoke screen
- (i) AIDS
- (j) red-hot

[10 marks]

6. Draw tree diagrams for the following sentences.

- (a) The wind swept the kite into the sky
- (b) The man with the hat whispered softly

[10 marks]

7. Describe two transformational rules. Illustrate your answers with examples.

[10 marks]

8. Describe the following terms;

- (a) Universal Grammar
- (b) The critical age hypothesis
- (c) Creoles
- (d) Code-switching

[20 marks]