

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama

Sidang 1987/88

HBT 401 - Semantik Bahasa Inggeris

Tarikh: 3 November 1987

Masa: 9.00 pagi - 12.00 t/hari.
(3 jam)

THERE ARE SEVEN(7) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
Answer any FIVE(5).

1. Ullmann (1979) states that "very few words are completely synonymous." Elaborate on this statement. Be sure to give examples which illustrate the slight differences which two "synonymous" words can have, and indicate the possible sources of these differences. (20 marks)
2. Provide a brief description and example for each of the following:
 - (a) idiom
 - (b) antonymy
 - (c) polysemy
 - (d) entailment
 - (e) conceptual metaphor(20 marks)
3. Linguists, and especially semanticists, have disagreed over the role of context in the study of semantics. Briefly present the terms of both sides of this argument and give your opinion on whether the study of semantics benefits or suffers from attention to context. (20 marks)
4. Define both of the following terms and discuss the role each concept plays in the semantics of English:
 - (a) deixis
 - (b) definiteness(20 marks)

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5. Prototypes, stereotypes and dictionary definitions would all be within the realm of interest for a descriptive semanticist. Discuss the relationships between these concepts/terms, and illustrate your discussion with examples for a common noun such as house, tree, or bird. (20 marks)

6. Consider the following utterances"

- (a) "Eat more."
- (b) "Won't you take another helping?"
- (c) "You're going to waste away to nothing if you don't eat more."
- (d) "You can have more if you'd like."
- (e) "If you liked the food, you'd eat more. I'm sorry I'm such a bad cook."

Compare and contrast at least three of these utterances in terms of perlocution and illocution. Further, indicate what sincerity and felicity conditions, if any, would be necessary for these utterances to be context-appropriate.

(20 marks)

7. Why is semantics important? What can we learn from semantics that we can learn from no other field of study? How can the study of semantics be applied to the "real world"? Discuss the impact of semantics from the perspective of at least three different fields of study. (20 marks)

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