

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Kedua

Sidang Akademik 1999/2000

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HXE 302 – Linguistic II

Masa: [3 jam]

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS SIX [6] QUESTIONS ON FOUR [4] PAGES.

Answer ALL questions in Section A and TWO [2] from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer ALL Questions.

1. Describe two types of constraints in transformational grammar.

(10marks)

2. For the sentence below, give a step by step analysis of the deep and surface structures.

What are the boys and girls writing in the classroom ?

(10 marks)

- 3 Using Phrase Structure Grammar Rules, analyse the following sentence:

The old lady in that house said that she knew the serial killer.

(10 marks)

..12-

- (a) Justify the need for X-bar categories in tree diagrams.
- (b) Using X-bar syntax, analyse the following sentence:

That young man with blue eyes is a great sailor.

(20 marks)

SECTION B

Answer Question FOUR [4] and ONE [1] other from either Question FIVE [5] or Question SIX [6].

Question FOUR [4] (COMPUSORY)

- 4. Within Grice's theory of implicature there are conventional implicatures, and generalized and particularized conversational implicatures. Define and illustrate each of these implicatures. Your discussion should include a general description of the co-operative principle and the maxims. (25 marks)
- 5. Write a brief paragraph each in answer to the following questions:
 - (a) Discuss the claim that directional expressions usually have metaphorical uses.
 - (b) Why are idioms described as 'semantically opaque'?
 - (c) How would a prototype approach to meaning handle the concept 'bird'?
 - (d) Comment on the different senses of 'mean' in the following examples:
 - When I said "Wear your best suit," I mean the red one.
 - A red sky at dawn means there will be rain later.
 - "What on earth does 'pusillanimous' mean?"

..13-

- (e) Write out in order of their occurrence the referring expressions in the following passage:

The Hotel Casino de la Selva stands on a slightly higher hill just outside the town, near the railway station. It is built far back from the main highway and surrounded by gardens and terraces.....Palatial, an air of desolate splendour pervades it. For it is no longer a casino. You may not even dice for drinks in the bar.

(25 marks)

6. Examine the following list of words, and then answer the questions given below, taking your examples from the list.

above, vertebrate, colour, bank, fat, red, below, obese, invertebrate, green, success, villain, thin, starve.

- (a) Choose one example of a polysemous word, and give two phrases in which the word is used in two different senses.
- (b) Identify a word-form which is an example of homonymy, and briefly explain the difference between homonymy and polysemy.
- (c) Identify a pair of converses which are also directional opposites.
- (d) Identify a pair of complementary/ungradable opposites.
- (e) Identify a pair of gradable opposites.
- (f) Identify a pair of partial synonyms.
- (g) Explain briefly why the pair chosen in (f) are not completely interchangeable in all contexts.
- (h) Identify two co-hyponyms and their superordinate term. Make sure that you indicate which word is the superordinate.

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- (g) Provide a word which has undergone the semantic change of the kind known as deterioration.
- (j) Provide a word which has undergone the semantic changes of amelioration and narrowing.
- (k) What semantic changes have affected the word starve?

(25 marks)

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