
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

First Semester Examination
Academic Session 2005/2006

November 2005

HET 312 - Discourse Analysis

Duration : 3 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of FOUR pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer any FOUR questions.

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1. Using Grice's Cooperative Principle of Conversation Theory, explain in detail how participants in a conversation maintain the smooth flowing of the verbal discourse that they are engaged in. Also include in your explanation the notion of implicatures and how they are derived.

[100 marks]

2. With appropriate examples, give a comprehensive description of Searle's speech act theory.

[100 marks]

3. Most of the time, a coherent text is achieved if proper use of textual linkages or cohesive markers is employed to link various sentences in a text together and thus make the text meaningful. Identify 5 types of cohesive markers that exist in the English Language and explain in detail how these markers help in making a text coherent.

[100 marks]

4. Answer [a] AND [b].

[a] Explain The Theory of Conversation Analysis.

[b] Analyse the following conversation.

In your analysis, discuss the participants' method of

[i] Adhering to turn-taking regulations

[ii] Using various turn types

[iii] Identifying and repairing problems

Scully: Hi, I'm Special Agent Dana Scully and this is Agent Fox Mulder.

Detective Thompson: I don't remember anybody calling the, FBI in on this.

Mulder: Well we're not here on an official capacity, Agent Scully's a medical doctor, we heard about your victim and, she thought she might take a look.

Detective Thompson: I'm sorry, I'm gonna ask you to leave. We have an investigation.

Glenna: For God's sakes Tommy, this is no time to get pissy.

Detective Thompson: We have jurisdiction here.

Mulder: Any suspects yet Detective?

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Detective Thompson: I don't work for you sir, and unless you hear different from the Attorney General, er, this case is a local matter.

Scully: Agent Mulder, we should go.

Mulder: There's no need to get bent outta shape.

Detective Thompson: On the contrary, I think I've been exceedingly polite.

(Mulder and the detective stand there staring at each other for a few moments, and then Mulder leaves)

SCENE 5

OUTSIDE

(Mulder and Scully walk along a street until they reach their car)

Mulder: So what's eating that guy?

Scully: He was perfectly in his rights. The FBI has no overriding jurisdiction in a murder case. Anyway, you'd feel the same way if someone was horning in on your work.

Mulder: Yeah, chances are he's without a clue. He'll probably be scratching his head when they bring the next body in.

Scully: You missed your opening Mulder, you could've really humiliated him and er, told him who the perpetrator was, The Jersey Devil. (Mulder laughs)

(Mulder stands beside the car and talks to Scully, who is standing on the other side of the car)

Mulder: Hey whatta you say, we grab a hotel, take in a floor show, drop a few quarters in the slot, do a little digging on this case.

Scully: You're kidding right.

Mulder: Ok, we can skip the floor show.

Scully: Mulder I have to be back in D.C.

Mulder: What you gotta date?

Scully: No, I have my godson's birthday party at 6:30.

(Mulder throws the car keys across the top of the car, Scully catches them) What are you doing?

Mulder: A little poking around, maybe make a weekend out of it.

(Mulder walks off)

Scully: Mulder, it's a three hour drive back by myself...(Mulder waves to Scully)...in Friday night traffic, ooowh.

[The X-files, Season One, Episode: The Jersey Devil]

[100 marks]

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5. Analyse the following text in terms of the BPSE pattern, explaining whether they incorporate the 4 whole pattern or just part of it. Also in the discussion of your analysis, pick out the words or phrases which mark part of the BPSE pattern and provide the structure of the pattern diagrammatically:

Ferrari: wounded but wiser

(1) Ferrari continued to create more statistics of the unpalatable kind as neither car scored points for the first time since Brazil 2003. (2) Schumacher's first retirement with mechanical trouble in 58 races summed up a weekend that, in the end, amounted to no more than a useful test for the new car.

(3) Schumacher showed the F2005's potential with a front row start and a strong challenge for the lead before a hydraulics problem terminally affected the gearchange. (4) Schumacher had been running the softer tyre, arousing a suspicion that he had run light in final qualifying, knowing the tyre – and perhaps the car – might not last.

(5) Barrichello, who had done no more than 85 laps during testing with the new car, didn't get much further in Bahrain when a broken gearbox restricted his running to just five laps on Friday morning. (6) He then launched straight into first qualifying on Saturday, where he ran wide at the first corner. (7) A new gearbox arrived in time for final qualifying on Sunday morning, but that broke at the end of the lap, damaging the engine and enforcing a back-of-grid start. (8) Barrichello then drove a storming race until his rear tyres gave up in the last 20 laps and he dropped from sixth to ninth.

(9) "The result is disappointing," said technical director Ross Brawn. (10) "But it was absolutely right to bring the new car. (11) We're able to take away a lot of positives"

[F1 Racing: Local Edition May 2005]

[100 marks]

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