

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Kursus Semasa Cuti Panjang

Sidang Akademik 1999/2000

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HXE 302 – LINGUISTICS II

Masa: [3 jam]

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THE EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS SIX [6] QUESTIONS IN THREE [3] PAGES.

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

SECTION A:

1. Using Phrase Structure Rules, draw the appropriate tree structure for each of the following phrases. [20 marks]
  - [a] through the dirty window.
  - [b] the success of the nation.
  - [c] a book about syntax.
  - [d] quite full of errors.
  - [e] discovered the gruesome truth.
2. Explain the semantic and syntactic functions of **specifiers**. [20 marks]
3. Justify the need for trace in transformational **grammar**. [10 marks]

...2/

**SECTION B:**

4. Examine the following list of words, and then answer the questions given below, taking your examples from the list. (Note: Some words can be used more than once.)

[25 marks]

*deep, villain, buy, animal, illegal, buy, profound, legal, deer, shallow, sell, light*

- [a] Identify a pair of gradable opposites.
  - [b] Comment on the polysemy of the pair of gradable opposites.
  - [c] Explain how polysemy can be distinguished from homonymy.
  - [d] Identify a pair of converse.
  - [e] Identify a pair of complementaries (ungradable opposites).
  - [f] Identify a pair of words related by hyponymy. Identify which is the hyponymy and which is the superordinate.
  - [g] Identify a pair of partial synonyms.
  - [h] Explain briefly why the two words are not perfectly synonymous.
  - [i] Identify a pair of homophones.
  - [j] Comment on the different senses/meanings of the word 'light'.
5. Write a brief paragraph in answer to the following questions.

[25 marks]

- [a] Why are idioms described as 'semantically opaque'?
- [b] Define sense, denotation and reference.
- [c] Comment on the different senses of 'mean' in the following sentences.
  - [ i] When I said "Wear your best dress", I meant the red one.
  - [ ii] A red sky at dawn means there will be rain later.

...3/

[iii] "What on earth does 'pusillanimous' mean?"

[d] 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, a certain air of desolate splendour pervades it. For it is no longer a Casino. You may not even dice for drinks in the bar.

6. What do you understand by "Speech Act"? With appropriate examples, distinguish between locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary forces in a Speech Act. [25 marks]

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