

SULIT

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First Semester Examination  
2021/2022 Academic Session

February/March 2022

**HET515 - Linguistic Studies**

Duration : 2 hours

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Please check that this examination paper consists of TWO (2) pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

There are SIX (6) questions. Answer any **THREE (3)** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

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1. Discuss the FOUR characteristics of human language that distinguish it from other animal communication systems.

[100 marks]

2. Speech production is the result of the generation of acoustic energy in the form of airstream mechanism as well as the activities that modulate the airstream into various types of speech sounds. Explain how the processes generate various types of airstream mechanisms found in human speech sounds and the modification of the airflow that takes place both at laryngeal and supra laryngeal levels of the vocal tract.

[100 marks]

3. Discuss how the word '*cipher*' can be transformed into various grammatical categories [i.e. a verb, a noun and an adjective which can further be negated] through affixation process. Support your answer with an illustration of the morphological structures of the derived words using tree diagrams.

[100 marks]

4. *Generativity* and *hierarchical structure* are considered two salient properties of the syntax of human languages. Why? Discuss, with exemplification.

[100 marks]

5. We can understand the notion of meaning by looking at our semantic competence. Clarify this statement with a clear explanation of semantic knowledge and relevant examples.

[100 marks]