

SULIT



First Semester Examination
2019/2020 Academic Session

December 2019 / January 2020

HET515 - Linguistic Studies

Duration : 2 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of TWO (4) pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

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. Do you agree with the suggestion that concepts have an internal structure with the best prototypical exemplars close to the core and less typical members arranged in more peripheral regions? Why or why not? Make reference to TWO concepts in your discussion and clarify your answer with relevant examples.

[100 marks]

3. There are clear differences in the ways in which individual languages combine morphemes to form words and linguists usually distinguish four types of systems. Does English belong exclusively to any one of these four systems? Discuss, with examples.

[100 marks]

4. Explain the term 'phonotactic' and the possible phonotactic constraints found in the consonantal onset and termination (coda) of English syllable as proposed by Peter Roach (2008). Support your answer with examples and a metrical diagram representing the maximum possible number of consonantal segments that make up the onset and coda of English syllables.

[100 marks]

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

[100 marks]