

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2004/2005

March 2005

HET 123 - A Study of Language

Duration: 3 hours

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

Answer ALL the questions.

1. Consider the following data, and determine whether the **final sound** of each word is pronounced as [d], [t] or [ɪd].

- [a] Walked
- [b] Smashed
- [c] Match
- [d] Kissed
- [e] Stated
- [f] Added
- [g] Decided
- [h] Coated
- [i] Creamed
- [j] Cleaned
- [k] Combed
- [l] stalled

Explain the rules for the production of each of these final sounds.

[15 marks]

2. List out the diphthongs in British English. Then categorise them into 'rising' and 'centring' diphthongs. Next, explain how these two categories of diphthongs are produced.

[15 marks]

3. [a] With appropriate examples, explain the notions of 'inflectional affix' and 'derivational affix'.

[5 marks]

- [b] Divide the following words into their constituent morphemes by placing a plus sign (+) between the morphemes.

- [i] misjudged
- [ii] undeniable
- [iii] internationalization
- [iv] derivational
- [v] disqualified

[5 marks]

...3/-

[c] Then draw a tree diagram for each of the words. [10 marks]

4. An English phrase structure may have its HEAD for example, N or V as its only member. However, in addition to the HEAD, it may be expanded to include other members. For example, a noun phrase structure can be represented as follows:

- NP → N
- NP → det + N
- NP → det + AP + N + PP

Write out the possible phrase structures for a **verb phrase**. [10 marks]

5. Provide tree diagrams for the following sentences:

- [a] The cat slowly ate the canned food on the table.
- [b] The man puts his new shoes in the great black box.
- [c] A bird with big black wings flew by the red house.

[15 marks]

6. Explain the following semantics terms:

- [a] *Antonym*
- [b] *complementary senses*
- [c] *converse senses*

Then put the following set of words into pairs with opposite senses. Next, work out whether the words are an antonym pair, a complementary pair, or a converse pair.

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| awake | bottom | father | up | sleep |
| mother | white | aunt | black | uncle |

[15 marks]

7. Using appropriate examples, explain the following terms:

- [a] Synonyms
- [b] Dialect
- [c] Implicature
- [d] Presupposition

[20 marks]