

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama
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HET 512 - Linguistic Studies

Masa : 3 jam

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS FIVE [5] QUESTIONS IN TWO [2] PAGES.

Answer **ALL** the questions. They all carry equal marks.

1. [a] Regular nouns in English form their plural by 'adding an *-s* (or sometimes *-es*)': *cats, dogs, horses, ostriches*, etc. However, this *-(e)s* suffix undergoes phonologically conditioned allomorphy, appearing as [s], [z] or [ʊz]. Using the words listed below, identify the phonological conditions of this allomorphy.

antelopes	cows	ducks	cats
dogs	eels	horses	fishes
iguanas	lambs	doves	

- [b] Regular verbs in English form their past tense by 'adding a *-d* (or sometimes *-ed*)': *walked, played, waited*, etc. However, this *-(e)d* suffix undergoes phonologically conditioned allomorphy, appearing as [t], [d] or [ʊd]. Describe the phonological conditions of this allomorphy using the words listed below. Comment on the relationship between this allomorphy and the allomorphy you described in 1a.

aged	kissed	raided	sinned
walked	suitd	exploded	laughed
rubbed	waited		

2. What does the term **phonotactic constraints** refer to? Illustrate how the notion of syllable (and its constituents) help to explain this phonological phenomenon? Use examples from English and another language to clarify and support your answer.
3. Discuss the statement “You know a Word by its Reputation”(Jeffries, 1998). Include in your discussion the definitions of the relevant semantic phenomena and exemplify using language expressions from English and other languages.
4. Discuss the following pairs of linguistic concepts:
 - [a] functional categories and lexical categories.
 - [b] derivational morphology and inflectional morphology.
 - [c] clipping and backformation.
 - [d] free variation and complementary distribution.
5. Elaborate on the properties of **generativity, ambiguity, hierarchical structure** and **infinite recursion** in Phrase Structure Grammar.

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