
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2007/2008

April 2008

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 any FOUR questions.

1. Discuss, with examples and illustrations, the places of articulation of English consonants.

[100 marks]

2. Discuss the differences between derivational affixes (DA) and inflectional affixes (IA). Then, draw a morphological tree diagram for each of the words listed below.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| [a] discos | [b] Reproductivity |
| [c] Cancellation | [d] Unbelievable |
| [e] Unsystematically | [f] Disgruntled |
| [g] Conversationalists | [h] repossessing |

[100 marks]

3. Provide syntactical tree diagrams for the following sentences:

- [a] Anita fainted right after her wedding.
- [b] The dog chases the large cat from behind the house.
- [c] She gives her auntie with the red hair a huge hug.
- [d] He lives in the big blue house by the edge of the river.
- [e] David crashes his black sports car into a large brick wall.

[100 marks]

4. Discuss the two types of contexts that we need to take into account in order to make a discourse interpretable.

[100 marks]

5. "By virtue of their meaning, words and phrases are able to enter into a variety of semantic relations with other words and phrases in the language." (O'Grady et. al 1996).

Discuss, with examples.

[100 marks]

6. Using appropriate examples, discuss the differences between

- [a] regional and social dialects
- [b] creole and pidgin
- [c] accent and slang

[100 marks]