

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama

Sidang Akademik 2000/2001

September/Oktober 2000

HET 512 – Pengajian Linguistik

Masa: [3 jam]

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

Answer **FOUR** [4] out of five questions.

1. A great deal of linguistic variability is produced by a finite number of articulatory processes operating in language, one of which is *assimilation*. Explain this process and three others, giving examples in your discussion.

[25 marks]

2. Analyse the following words into morphemes and explain their structure in terms of derivation, inflection, compounding, affixation and conversion. Include a brief explanation of the meaning or function of each bound morpheme.

dishonourable insensibility anti-ballistic missile untidiest
counter-revolutionary

[25 marks]

../2-

3. “Verbs have traditionally been categorized on the basis of the number and nature of their sisters within the VP, often referred to as the ‘complement(s)’ of the verb” (*Brown & Miller, 1980:61*). Discuss some of the traditionally recognised verb classes.

[25 marks]

4. Traditional grammars of English recognise eight parts of speech. Discuss open and closed classes in relation to these parts of speech.

[25 marks]

5. The following observations summarise a particular issue surrounding the meaning of words:

“Words have basic inalienable meanings, departure from which is either conscious metaphor or inexcusable vulgarity” (Evelyn Waugh, in Green, 1982:254)

“ Words have often been called slippery customers, and many scholars have been distressed by their tendency to shift their meanings and slide out from under any simple definition”
(*Labov, 1973:34*)

Discuss.

[25 marks]