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University Examinations 2024/2025

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

EEL 3400: A TRANSFORMATIONAL STUDY OF SYNTAX

DATE: JANUARY 2025   TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: *Answer question* **one** *and any other* **two** *questions*

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

a. Using two verbs of your own, illustrate the morphological frame of the verb (4 marks)

b. Explain transitivity in Verbs   (4 marks)

c. Discuss the concept of sub-categorization in syntax   (5 marks)

d. Show the difference between a clause and a phrase   (4 marks)

e. Define the noun in terms of its morphological behaviour and distributional properties.

(4 marks)

f. What are the two main differences between prescriptive grammar and descriptive grammar?   (4 marks)

g. With an illustration define the concept "empty constituent"   (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

a. With two noun phrases, illustrate structural ambiguity   (8 marks)

b. Describe linguistic transformation   (4 marks)

c. Differentiate between subject complement and object complement as well as between the direct object and the indirect object (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

a. Draw tree diagrams for the following sentences (10 marks)

    i. Joshua gave a note to his friend.

    ii. The form four class and their teachers went to the new school in central province.

    iii. The house that John built had a leaking roof

    iv. The large green book, over the counter in the library was stolen

    v. The old women and men smoked by the train station

b. Traditional classification of words is confusing. Discuss (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

a. Write the lexicon/sentences for the following rewrite rules (10 marks)

    i. S= Det + Adv +Adj+ N + PP + Present tense + V

    ii. S= NP + Conj + NP + Past tense + Verb + NP + NP

    iii. S= NP + Clause + PP + Aux + Aux + MV +PP

    iv. S= PP +NP + VP

    v. S=Det + N + Aux + Aux + MV

ii. Describe four tests that can be used to Identify constituents during sentence analysis. Illustrate your answer. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

a. Analyse the following sentences by identifying their constituent elements and functions

(10 marks)

    i. The man from the movies kept the money under the carpet

    ii. His co-workers bought him a birthday present

    iii. The new parish priest named the church St. Luke's

    iv. Painfully slowly, they moved up the steep hill

    v. Jesus wept

b. Explain the terms: Passivization, Nominalization, Recurrance and embedding (10 marks)