



Kasarani Campus
Off Thika Road
P. O. Box 49274, 00101
NAIROBI
Westlands Campus
Pamstech House
Woodvale Grove
Tel. 4442212
Fax: 4444175

KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS, 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS
FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)
KEN 2206-ENGLISH SYNTAX

Date: 7th December, 2022
Time: 8.30am-10.30am

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) What is the meaning of affix-hopping transformation (2marks)
- b) Using the knowledge on syntax acquired from this unit, describe the following concepts that are used in Phrase Structure Grammar:
- i) Deep structure (4 marks)
 - ii) Surface structure (4 marks)
 - iii) Rewrite rules (4 marks)
 - iv) Lexicon (4 marks)
- c) Construct tree diagrams for the following sentences using the knowledge learnt from English Syntax.
- i) Is he a competent lawyer? (4 marks)
 - ii) The nurse may have been fired by the manager. (4 marks)
 - iii) The two little girls should have eaten that food. (4 marks)

QUESTION TWO: 20 MARKS

- a) Explain how structuralism as a feature in modern linguistics is a shift from the traditional approach to grammar. (10 marks)
- b) What prescriptive rules for 'proper' English use are not obeyed in the following sentences and how would they be corrected?
- i) I am certain that I will not remember the name of the person that I will give my book to. (3marks)
 - ii) The old theory failed to fully explain all the data. (3 marks)

- iii) We will be rewarded in heaven. But this does not mean that we should always give what we own away.
(4 marks)

QUESTION THREE: (20 MARKS)

- a) State the meanings of the following labels of words as prescribed by Traditional Grammar
- i) Full words (2 marks)
 - ii) Empty words (2marks)
 - iii) Open class (2 marks)
 - iv) Closed class (2 marks)
- b) By use of tree diagrams, illustrate the structural ambiguity in the following sentences.
- i) George saw the boy with a telescope. (4 marks)
 - ii) I shot a cow in my pajamas. (4 marks)
 - iii) Rude boys and girls are sitting at the table. (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR: 20 MARKS

- a) Using the following rewrite rules, provide **three sets** of lexicons for each of the following phrase structures:
- i) S-NP+AUX+VP (3 marks)
 - ii) AP- (Adv)+Adj (3 marks)
 - iii) NP- D+N (3 marks)
 - iv) NP- D+(AP)+N+PP (3 marks)
- b) With relevant examples, describe **four** shortcomings of Phrase structure Grammar. (8marks)

QUESTION FIVE: 20 MARKS

- a) Discuss **five** significant features of Immediate Constituent analysis in the study of Generative Grammar.
(10 marks)
- b) With examples in sentences, illustrate the functions of the following types of clauses:
- i) Noun clause (5 marks)
 - ii) Adjective clause (5 marks)