

ENG314



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL  
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

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## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

### 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR MAIN  
EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: ENG314

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH SEMANTICS AND  
PRAGMATICS

DATE: 25/1/2022

TIME: 2.00 – 5.00PM

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### INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF ~~THREE~~ <sup>FOUR</sup> PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

**REGULAR – MAIN EXAM****ENG 314: ENGLISH SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS****STREAM: BED (Arts)****DURATION: 3 Hours****INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- i. Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.
- ii. Do not write on the question paper.

**Question One**

Meaning within a written or spoken text can be established by the reader or listener by paying attention to how the words are organized and used within the text. Based on this:

- a) Distinguish between the following terms as used in linguistic text interpretation:
  - i. Semantics and Pragmatics (4 marks)
  - ii. Anaphora, Cataphora and Deixis references (6 marks)
- b) Using relevant illustrations, describe the following aspects that determine meaning in human language:
  - i. Language productivity
  - ii. Symbolic nature of language (6 marks)
- c) Identify and explain the ‘word references’ in the following sentences as either ‘anaphora’ or ‘cataphora’
  - i. Although I call her every week, my mother still complains that I don’t keep in touch often enough.
  - ii. The book was there on the table. I’d never read Moby Dick and I didn’t intend to do so now.
  - iii. Michael went to the bank. He was annoyed because it was closed.
  - iv. He sat down at the table and took a small box from his pocket. The object felt heavy in his hands. Inside it was the key to his future.
  - v. It entered silently, the cat was a supreme hunter.
  - vi. I drove the car to the parking lot and left it there.
  - vii. When Ana entered the room, she was distraught. (10 marks)
- d) Identify the ‘deixis references’ in the following sentences:
  - i. You, you but not you are dismissed.
  - ii. This city stinks!
  - iii. I am here.
  - iv. I went shopping yesterday. (4 marks)

**Question Two**

The analysis of various components of language elements provides a better understanding of how different words relate to each other in various linguistic texts. Based on this:

- a) Provide a definition of ‘Componential Analysis’ (2 marks)

- b) Identify and explain **five** components considered in the process of componential analysis (10 marks)
- c) Using the concept of 'word senses analysis', provide the 'semantic feature' shared by each of the following groups of words: (3 marks)
- i. Mother, Woman, Hen
  - ii. Father, Man, Bull
  - iii. Girl, Boy, Calf
- d) Using the concept of 'word sense analysis', provide at **least two** 'semantic senses' for each of the following words: (5 marks)
- i. Bachelor
  - ii. Son
  - iii. Child
  - iv. Grandparent
  - v. Cock

### Question Three

- a) Define the term 'semantic relationships' as used in word associations (2 marks)
- b) Using appropriate examples, distinguish between the following sets of terms in relation to how meaning is established within a text. (6 marks)
- i. Reference and Sense (6 marks)
  - ii. Intension and extension (6 marks)
  - iii. Denotation and connotation (6 marks)

### Question Four

The words, phrases, and sentences people use have meanings, as well as actions and deeds; the manner in which they have been organized results in various embedded meanings. Referring to this statement:

- a) According to Geoffrey Leech, describe the following 'seven types of meaning' that should be considered: (14 marks)
- i. Logical or Conceptual meaning
  - ii. Connotative meaning
  - iii. Social meaning
  - iv. Affective meaning
  - v. Reflected meaning
  - vi. Collocative meaning
  - vii. Thematic meaning
- b) Assign the appropriate 'meaning' to each of the following statements:
- i. "Bird is a flying, two-legged, and egg-laying creature, with feathers and wings."
  - ii. "Child is a young human being, affectionate, amusing, lovable, sweet, noisy...etc."
  - iii. "Heavy smoker"
  - iv. "I hate for it!"
  - v. "Mama, how are today?"

- vi. "They stopped at the end of the corridor." And "At the end of the corridor, they stopped."  
(6 marks)

**Question Five**

Sense relations may be communicated through the various lexicon relations in an expression where they are sometimes assigned a new meaning. Using your knowledge in figurative language:

- a) Describe the following terms as used to denote sense relations:
  - i. Figures of speech
  - ii. Idioms
  - iii. Metaphor
  - iv. Metonymy(8 marks)
- c) Use the following metonyms in sentences to illustrate their meaning
  - i. New blood
  - ii. Hand
  - iii. Heart(6 marks)
- d) Distinguish the following expressions as either metaphor or idioms
  - i. "Bite the bullet"
  - ii. "Life is a climb, but the view is great."
  - iii. "Get your act together"
  - iv. "Her tears were a river flowing down her cheeks."
  - v. "The classroom was a zoo."
  - vi. "Under the weather"(6 marks)

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