

Mount Kenya



University

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION 2014/2015

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR

UNIT CODE: BLA4115

UNIT TITLE: ADVANCED THEORETICAL  
STUDIES

DATE: OCTOBER 2014      SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY      TIME: 2 HOURS

ANSWER QUESTIONS ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO

1. a) Explain 2 goals of a linguistic theory. (2 Marks)
- b) Describe any 3 weaknesses of phrases structure grammar. (3 Marks)
- c) Highlight three strengths of ICA (immediate constituent analysis). (6 Marks)
- d) Write sentences for the following re-write rules
  - i) D + Adj + N + (Present + M + have + en + V + D + N
  - ii) D + Adv + Adj + N + (Present) tense + be + V + Det + N + Adv
- e) With suitable examples, describe the following word formation processes
  - i) Blending. (3 Marks)
  - ii) Conversion. (3 Marks)
- f) Distinguish between the following concepts
  - i) Inflectional and derivational morphemes. (4 Marks)
  - ii) Deep and surface structure as used in transformational generation grammar. (3 Marks)
  - iii) A linguist and a polyglot. (2 Marks)
2. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of traditional grammar. (20 Marks)

3. a) Differentiate between formal and functional grammar. (10 Marks)
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- b) Discuss the weaknesses of the phrase structure grammar. (10 Marks)
4. Using the sentences, The arrogant policeman may have been molesting the suspect  
Derive the following transformations. (20 Marks)
- i) Negative
  - ii) Yes/no interrogative
  - iii) Passive sentences
  - iv) Wh- interrogative
5. Critically examine De Saussures dichotomies on language. (20 Marks)

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