



**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF ARTS (ENGLISH)**

**ENGL 532: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS**

**STREAMS: M.A. (ENGLISH) Y1S2**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**DAY/DATE: FRIDAY 13/8/2010**

**8.30 A.M. – 11.30 A.M.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Answer any four questions.

1. (a) What is semantics? [5 marks]  
(b) How does it differ from pragmatics? [10 marks]
  
  2. Discuss the extensionalist and the mentalist theories of meaning and show their weaknesses. [15 marks]
  
  3. There are several sense relations. Discuss them. [15 marks]
  
  4. ‘What is said may not necessarily be what is meant.’ Discuss this statement in relation to Grice’s cooperative principle. [15 marks]
  
  5. What is speech act? Discuss J. Austin’s theory on speech act with appropriate examples. [15 marks]
  
  6. (a) What is semantic change? [3 marks]  
(b) Discuss the factors that contribute to semantic change. [12 marks]
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