



KISII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION [ARTS]
SECOND SEMESTER 2017/2018
(JANUARY – APRIL, 2018)

ENGL 421: ADVANCED SYNTAX

STREAM: Y4S2

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY: WEDNESDAY, 1:30-3:30 PM

DATE: 25/04/2018

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not write anything on this question Paper.
2. Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION ONE [COMPULSORY]

- (a) Provide rewrite rules for the following sentences and their constituents. [8 marks]
- (i) The beautiful girl in my class is an athlete.
 - (ii) The girl has been trying to sell her kidney.
- (b) Using the sentence below, explain with the aid of a phrase marker how the Affix hopping transformation is done. [10 marks]
- The president has been deporting foreigners.*
- (c) Consider the sentence below: [4 marks]
- I have been rewarding everyone.*
- (i) Draw a structural definition (SD) phrase marker for the sentence. [4 marks]
 - (ii) Make the sentence passive and provide a structural change (SD) phrase marker for it. [4 marks]

- (iii) Describe the changes that have taken place as the transformations took place. [4 marks]

QUESTION TWO

Consider the sentences:

The teacher will order the drinks before the meal.

- (a) Using two tests for each case, explain why each of the phrases below is a constituent.
- (i) The teacher [4 marks]
 - (ii) The drinks [4 marks]
 - (iii) Before the meal [4 marks]
 - (iv) Order the drinks [4 marks]
 - (v) Order the drinks before the meal [4 marks]

QUESTION THREE

- (a) With the aid of a diagram, briefly describe the basic structure common to all phrases within X-bar syntax. [5 marks]
- (b) Use X-bar analysis to remove the ambiguity in the following phrases:
- (i) A man of his words
 - (ii) Fond of ice-cream
 - (iii) her dismissal of the suggestion
 - (iv) precisely at the opportune moment
 - (vi) extremely disappointed with you
- [15 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

Explain the following terms as used in Government and Binding Theory.

- (i) Co-indexing
 - (ii) C-command
- [8 marks]

Use two examples to illustrate and explain the three binding principles in Government and Binding theory. [12 marks]

QUESTION FIVE

Discuss the strengths and weakness of Chomsky's standard theory (1965). [20 marks]