MASENO UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016

FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CITY CAMPUS-SCHOOL BASED

AEN 402: FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR

Date: 30th June, 2016   Time: 11.00 - 1.00 pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

AEN 402: FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

Q1. Explain the following proposal by H. Frei using appropriate illustrations:

i. Expressivity
ii. Creativity
iii. Brevity
iv. Assimilation
v. Invariability

(30 marks)

Q2. With reference to three functional grammarians of your choice, justify the claim that communication is at the centre of all models of functional grammar. (20 marks)

Q3. Using illustrations, Provide an overview of the basic tenets of M.A.K. Halliday's Systemic Functional Theory of Grammar.

Q4. a) Establish rheme and theme as semantic concepts (5 marks)

b) Demonstrate with explanations the applicability of the concepts in a) above in the following constructions:

i. It is the spirit which is the source of a community's drawing power
ii. In searching for clues which might lead us to a fresh apprehension of the reality of spirit, the close connection between spirit and community is likely to prove the most fruitful.
iii. Apart from spirit there could be no community
iv. If there's buzzing noise, somebody's making a buzzing noise.
v. Once upon a time, a very long time ago now, about last Friday, John lived in a forest all by himself.

(15 marks)

Q5. a) Identify the semantic roles of the bold words in the following sentences:

i. **My father** always feels proud of me
ii. I went **home** early yesterday
iii. **The car** crashed then **the door closed**
iv. **John** understood the problem
v. David gave Mary a book

vi. She gave **the class** books
vii. **The teacher** can imagine how the class felt

(10 marks)

b) Explain, with examples, the following terminologies as used in Functional Grammar:
i. Linguistic expression
ii. A predicate frame
iii. Argument
iv. Semantic functions
v. Categorical statement

(10 marks)