



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (IBP) – AUGUST 2014 SESSION

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

AEN 800: DESCRIPTION OF LINGUISTIC FORM

DATE: Tuesday 30th December 2014

TIME: 2.00p.m - 5.00p.m

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question **ONE** and **Two** other questions

1. (a) Explain the function of the following symbols used in linguistic analysis.

(i) $|\beta|$

(ii) $[K^h]$

(iii) $[NEG]$

(iv) $\{ \}$

(v) $[\tilde{æ}]$

[5 Marks]

(b) With an example for each, differentiate the following linguistic terms

(i) Generative and transformational components of TGG.

(ii) Grammatical competence and pragmatic competence.

(iii) Presuppositions and implicatures.

(iv) Phonetic and phonemic transcriptions.

[16 Marks]

(c) Write phrase structure rules and then draw tree diagrams for the following sentences.

(i) The witness at the Hague recanted the evidence.

(ii) The Deputy President waved at the crowd happily.

(iii) My new friend has made me happy.

[9 Marks]

2. Critically examine how semantics and pragmatics are similar yet have different concerns in linguistic study. [20 Marks]

3. Evaluate the contribution of any two of the following linguists to linguistics.
 - (i) Ferdinand de Saussure
 - (ii) Noam Chomsky
 - (iii) Nikolai Trubetzkoy
 - (iv) Michael Halliday. [20 Marks]

4. Using ample illustrations, describe the main principles of X-bar syntax, showing clearly how this syntactic theory analyses language structures. [20 Marks]

5. Examine the data from Bontoc, a language spoken in the Philippine Islands
 1. [fikas] 'Strong'
 2. [Kilad] 'red'
 3. [bato] 'stone'
 4. [fusul] 'enemy'
 5. [fumikas] 'he is becoming strong'
 6. [kumilad] 'he is becoming red'
 7. [bumato] 'he is becoming stone'
 8. [fumusu] 'he is becoming an enemy'
 - (a) What word formation process is used to form the verbs? Illustrate your answer. [4 Marks]
 - (b) What part of speech can the process in (a) be applied to (**items 1-4**)? [4 Marks]
 - (c) What type of affix is used to form the verbs? Describe its form and its placement within the root word. [6 Marks]
 - (d) Given [pusi] 'poor', what would be the most likely meaning of 'pumusi'? [2 Marks]
 - (e) Given [nitad] 'dark', what would be the most likely form meaning 'he is becoming dark'? [2 Marks]
 - (f) Given [pumukaw] 'he is becoming white', what is the most likely form meaning 'white'? [2 Marks]