

THE UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS –2011

COURSE NUMBER	LINGUISTICS 4.31420
TITLE OF PAPER	SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS
SEQUENCE OF PAPER	FINAL EXAMINATION
TIME ALLOWED	3 HOURS & 10 MINUTES READING TIME
INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES	ANSWER ALL SECTIONS IN BOTH PARTS OF EXAM
MARKING SCHEME	100
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IN EXAM BOOKLET	
AIDS TO BE PROVIDED BY STUDENT ADMINISTRATION	EXAM BOOKLET, ANSWER BOOKLET, EXAMINATION CARD
AIDS TO BE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT	NONE
AIDS CANDIDATES PERMITTED TO TAKE INTO EXAMINATION ROOM	WRITING IMPLEMENTS, ERASERS

SECTION 1: SEMANTICS

PART 1 - DEFINITIONS

(10 MARKS)

Question 1

Select any five (5) of the terms below and provide a brief definition of each term. Use an example to demonstrate your answer. The example is worth 1 mark.

- a) synonymy
- b) gradable antonyms
- c) morpheme gap
- d) utterance
- e) semantic range
- f) semantic property
- g) collocative meaning
- h) vocative phrase
- i) participant role
- j) multiple taxonomy
- k) hyponymy

PART 2: SHORT ANSWERS

(20 MARKS)

Instructions: ANSWER ANY FIVE (5) OF THE QUESTIONS BELOW.
Each question in this section is worth four (4) marks.

Question 2

How are *grammatical classes* different from and similar to *semantic categories*? Discuss each feature with examples other than the ones used in class

Question 3

“*Meaning has priority over form*” Explain with examples.

Question 4

Differentiate hierarchical lexical relationships from part-whole relationships with clear demonstrations

Question 5

Differentiate polar opposition from inverse opposition with examples

Question 6

Define *Truth Conditions* in Semantic Analysis with examples.

Question 7

Define *Overlapping Reference* with clear demonstrations, using 4 examples in English or Tokpisin

Question 8

Construct a word taxonomy that demonstrates a *generic-specific* relationship between a group of English or Tokpisin words / lexical items.

PART 3: Workbook: Semantic Analysis (20 MARKS)

Instructions: ANSWER ALL FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION
Each question is worth Five Marks.

Question 9 (5 Marks)

Under each underlined word in the following sentences, write the initial of the Semantic Category (A, F, T, E, R) the word belongs to.

- a) My aunt is interested in this work.
- b) John's conclusion was cleverly presented.
- c) Her absence became a matter of concern for the lecturer.
- d) The examinations are over but the unnecessary strike prevented home students from departing.
- e) His father had not regained his consciousness at this point in time.
- f) The boat's sail was damaged in yesterday's movements in the tides and unexpected strong winds.
- g) The movie theatre is full of people who wish to watch the play.
- h) The sick baby was on the operating table when the blackout occurred.
- i) Sometimes, it is better to wait until the storm passes.

- j) The volume of rain measured last month was the highest for the year.
- k) In retrospect, the whole incident is regrettable.
- l) Mr. Kila had an unexpected visit from the famous soccer player.
- m) The point of contrast for these stories is unclear.
- n) On this occasion, it is possible that the least popular candidate may win by a landslide.
- o) The mowing of the lawn was so noisy that the student's concentration lapsed momentarily.

Question 10 (5 Marks)

Identify the subjects and predicates of the following sentences:

1. In the meantime, you should finish your assignments
2. The fact that I arrived first does not mean that I have won
3. Please, do not ask too many people to attend the game
4. Kila managed to avoid detection
5. This soup is too hot to eat right away
6. A cloudless sky is a sign of a hot day
7. It is always the case of counting the chickens before they hatch
8. 'Think before you leap' is good advice
9. The time is now up
10. You are well aware of the consequences of your actions.

Question 11 (5 Marks)

Carry out a complete componential analysis of the following semantic sets.

Note: dash (-) means 'absence of' or 'not'
 asterisk (*) means a component is not applicable
 plus (+) means a positive feature but may not be indicated.

- a) [simmer, boil, fry, steam, roast]
- b) [chef, tiger, blood, truck, priest]
- c) [food, meat, people, elephants, frangipani, dog]
- d) [blood, water, ocean, oil, rain]
- e) [earth, sand, clay, mud, rock]

Question 12 (5 Marks)

Study the following semantic sets.

- 1) Identify shared similarities between each set.
 - 2) Identify distinguishing components and points of contrast in each set.
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1. a) [murder, sacrifice, slaughter, assassinate, execute]
b) [grab, grip, push, snatch, seize, clutch]
 2. a) [orange, lemon, lime, grapefruit]
b) [pig, dog, fish, chicken, cat]
 3. a) [angel, demon, evil spirit, Satan]
b) [ghost, monster, ogre, fairy, elf]
 4. a) [kapul, pik, sikau, mumut, muruk]
b) [pork, veal, steak, sausage, meatball]
 5. a) [hem, seam, embroider, tack]
b) [dress, shirt, trousers, skirt, skirt]
 6. a) [chair, bed, cupboard, table, sofa]
b) [rug, carpet, tile, runner, truck, train]
 7. a) [drive, fly, raft (v), skydive, float]
b) [skip, hop, stand, trot, step]
 8. a) [droop, slump, sag, loll, wilt]
b) [lie, sleep, stand, walk, cry]
 9. a) [ugly, beautiful, tall, short, slim]
b) [nice, pleasant, agreeable, lovely]
 10. a) [fight, brawl, hit, slap, battle, combat]
b) [enemy, foe, rival, adversary, antagonist]

SECTION 1I: (50 MARKS)

PART 1 - DEFINITIONS (10 MARKS)

Question 1

Select any five (5) of the terms below and provide a brief definition of each term. Use an example to demonstrate your answer. The example is worth one mark.

- a) deixis
- b) metaphor
- c) pragmatics
- d) metonymy
- e) predicate
- f) amelioration
- g) pejoration
- h) generalization
- i) contiguity
- j) ambiguity

PART 2: SHORT ANSWERS (25 MARKS)

Instructions: ANSWER ANY FIVE (5) OF THE QUESTIONS BELOW (4 MARKS EACH)

Question 2

State the principle of compositionality and its three separate claims. Discuss the limitations of this approach.

Question 3

What are deixes? Discuss different types of deixes. Why do deixes exist in all languages?

Question 4

‘Words acquire their meanings only in the nexus of the proposition.’ Comment; give an example.

Question 5

‘Meaning as Use.’ Discuss.

Question 6

‘Mind Is the Measure.’ Discuss.

Question 7

How do we make sense of things? Describe the mechanism of thought/ language.

Question 8

‘Fluidity’ and ultimate ‘indeterminacy’ of meaning. Discuss the various factors that influence meaning (interpretation, understanding).

Question 9

Thematic Roles – what kind of relations do they express? Give examples.

PART 3: Workbook: Practical Analysis

(15 MARKS)

Instructions: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION
Each question has its own value.

Question 10 (1 Mark each = 5 marks)

Underline the deixes in 5 (FIVE) of the sentences below and identify their types:

- a) This exam is harder than I thought it would be; the good thing is, it will be over in just about 30 minutes.
- b) They will arrive here in 2 hours.
- c) His driving license expired a month ago.
- d) Please GO – NOW!
- e) We learn everything in comparison.
- f) Are you with us, or are you with them?

Question 11 (1 mark each = 5 Marks)

Identify the nexal patterns in the italicized sentences; underline all predicates:

Telephone instructions can be found on the backside [notice on a phone in Amsterdam]

Depositing the key into another person is prohibited. [Japan]

Visitors are allowed 2 to a bed, and for half an hour only [in a hospital, Barcelona]

Our motto is “EVER SERVE YOU RIGHT”

Good judgment comes from bad experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

Question 12 (1 Mark each = 5 marks)

State the possible meanings of just FIVE (5) of the following ambiguous signs:

1. “Push. Push. Push.” [on a maternity room door].
2. “Don’t stand there and be hungry. Come on in, and get fed up!” [in a restaurant window].
3. “Eat here and Get Gas!” [at a gas station]
4. “Drive carefully – we’ll wait” [in the front yard of a funeral home]
5. “Take care of burglars.” [Copenhagen, Denmark]
6. “Do not wear slippers to prevent falling in bath.” [Taiwan]
7. “Use repeatedly for severe damage.” [on a Taiwanese shampoo]
8. “Best place in town to take a leak” [at a radiator shop]
9. “All water served here has been personally passed by the manager” (notice in a restaurant in Acapulco).
10. “Don’t drink and drive. You might hit a bump and spill your drink”.

END OF EXAM!