



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

APRIL SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

AEN 400: ADVANCED THEORETICAL STUDIES IN GRAMMAR

DATE: 22/7/2021

TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Explain the five major differences relating to the concerns of Formal Grammar and Functional Grammar. (10 marks)
- b) State any FIVE weaknesses associated with Immediate Constituent Analysis. (10 marks)
- c) Use Phrase structure Trees to disambiguate the sentence “He rewarded the top boys and girls”. (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Use the sentence “**The suspect might have been picked by the police yesterday**” to demonstrate the following concepts in Transformational Generative Grammar

- a) Structural Description (5 marks)
- b) Structural Change (5 marks)
- c) Affix hopping transformation (5 marks)
- d) Passive transformation (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Draw an X-Bar tree diagram for the phrase “the young man from Makueni” then use the structure to explain the following terms

- a) Maximal Projection
- b) Specifier
- c) x-bar constituent
- d) Adjunct

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

With examples, explain how Theta Theory connects syntax and semantics by assignment of Theta roles.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Explain the three metafunctions of language according to Functionalists.