



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

AEN 402: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

DATE: 29/4/2019

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Briefly describe the interaction between semantics and pragmatics (4 marks)
- b) Explain THREE types of meaning in semantics. (6 marks)
- c) Using appropriate examples, distinguish between the following aspects of sentential meaning. (6 marks)
 - i) Lexical and structural paraphrases
 - ii) Ambiguity and vagueness
 - iii) Presupposition and Entailment
- d) Identify and define the sense relations that hold in the following cases (5 marks)
 - i) sow-a female deer and sow-to plant seeds
 - ii) soared and sawed
 - iii) Chair a piece of furniture; chair -to be in charge of (meeting) and chair -electric chair -(execution)
 - iv) Food, kales, pork and fish
 - v) Doctor-patient
- f) Briefly explain how prototype Theory accounts for the meaning of lexemes (5 marks)
- g) Describe the use of deictic elements in pragmatics (4 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Using appropriate examples show that morphemes, lexemes and sentence forms are the basic units of a semantic analysis. (14 marks)
- b) Explain three felicity conditions that an illocutionary act has to fulfill to achieve its effect (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Using appropriate examples, distinguish between sense, denotation and reference. (12 marks)
- b) Using examples, discuss the different classes of antonyms in language. (8 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Define the term politeness as used in pragmatics. (4 marks)
- b) Explain ways in which Brown and Levinson's (1987) Politeness can save face for others in an interaction. (16 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain how Grice's (1975) cooperative principles can be flouted in a conversation. (12 marks)
- b) Use the componential analysis technique to distinguish the meaning of the word 'man' from 'mare' (8 marks)