

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS**

ENGL 411: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

STREAMS: BED (ARTS) P/T

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 03/12/2019

2.30 PM – 4.30 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question One and any other Two

1. (a) Explain what you understand by the following terminologies.

(i) Pragmatics	[3 marks]
(ii) Syntactics	[3 marks]
(iii) Semiotics	[3 marks]
(iv) Semantics	[3 marks]

- (b) Using relevant examples, indicate the ways the hearer may understand by 'mean'
marks] [6

- (c) Discuss four problems associated with the Extensionalist Theory of meaning.
[12 marks]

2. (a) Outline four aspects of a speech situation. [8 marks]

- (b) Discuss the following sense relations:

(i) Hyponymy	[3 marks]
(ii) Synonymy	[3 marks]
(iii) Polysemy	[3 marks]
(iv) Homonymy	[3 marks]

3. (a) Using appropriate examples, discuss the componential theory of meaning.
[8 marks]

- (b) Explain four weaknesses associated with componential analysis. [12 marks]
4. Discuss the factors that facilitate semantic change. [20 marks]
5. (a) Explain what is meant by:
- (i) Locutionary act [3 marks]
 - (ii) Illocutionary act [3 marks]
 - (iii) Perlocutionary act [3 marks]
 - (iv) Connotative meaning [3 marks]
- (b) Discuss two criticisms levelled against the speech act theory. [8 marks]
6. (a) Discuss H.P. Grice's (1975) maxims of conversation. [8 marks]
- (b) Discuss four ways in which synonyms may differ. [12 marks]
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