

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF
MASTERS OF ARTS ENGLISH

ENGL 812: GENERATIVE SYNTAX

STREAMS: MA (ENGL)

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 09/08/2018

11.30 AM – 1.30 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO

1. (a) Using appropriate tree diagrams and referring to the C-command condition on binding, explain the ungrammaticality of : **Supporters of the president may harm himself.** [8 marks]
- (b) Using suitable examples explain the notions of heads, specifiers, complements and adjuncts as represented in X-bar schema. [12 marks]
- (c) (i) Using the notion of binding explain the ambiguity in **Lucy gave Mary her dress.** [6 marks]
- (ii) Assign indices to disambiguate the structure in (i) above. [4 marks]
2. Briefly define these terms:
- (a) (i) Argument [3 marks]
- (ii) One place and two-place predicates [4 marks]
- (b) Briefly discuss any four thematic roles with examples. [8 marks]
3. Subjects are generated internally within VP. With the aid of appropriate syntactic trees explain the following as evidence in support of the claim
- (i) The syntax of Idioms [8 marks]

4. (ii) Subjects in Belfast English [7 marks]
Using suitable structures discuss the notions of:
- (i) Split TP [8 marks]
(ii) Split CP [7 marks]
5. Discuss the concept of Government and case in English structures. Supply suitable examples. [15 marks]
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