



SOUTH EASTERN KENYA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

CLE 401: ENGLISH SYNTAX

DATE: 13TH DECEMBER, 2016

TIME: 8.00-10.00AM

INSTRUCTIONS

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

1. Use the sentence below to answer questions “a to d”

“Tom build the beautiful house on the hill.”

- a) Draw the SC for the sentence. (4mks)
- b) Draw the SD for the sentence. (2mks)
- c) Provide the rewrite rules for the SD. (2mks)
- d) What transformational rules have produced the SC. Explain your answer.(4mks)
- e) Distinguish between
 - i) Mutual dependency and mutual exclusion (2mks)
 - ii) Deep structure and surface structure (2mks)
 - iii) Diachronic and synchronic approach (2mks)
 - iv) Paradigmatic and syntagmatic relation (2mks)
- f) Discuss **five** weaknesses of phrase structure grammar (10mks)

- 1. Weaknesses of Traditional Grammar and Structuralism led to the birth of Transformational Generative Grammar. Discuss. (20mks)
- 2. Use Immediate Constituent Analysis to analyse the following sentences removing ambiguity where necessary. (20mks)
 - i. The money in the safe was stolen.
 - ii. Anne found the necklace in the drawer.
 - iii. Her son performed exemplary well in the test.

- iv. The water drowned the goat near the bank.
- v. He visits the home across the river.
- vi. Our house looks smart indeed.
- vii. Tom complained very bitterly about the issue.

- 4 a) Draw an SD for "Did the visitors come early." (3mks)
- b) Supply the rewrite rules for the SD. (3mks)
- c) Draw an SC for the sentence (4mks)
- d) Using illustrations, discuss **two** weaknesses of Immediate Constituent Analysis. (4mks)
- e) Greek philosophers and Romans contributed to the development of syntax. Explain. (6mks)
5. English syntax is important to a teacher of English language. Use five major points to justify this statement. (20mks)
6. a) Draw an SD marker for "A good teacher does not look after her students" (3mks)
- b) Provide the rewrite rules for the sentence above. (2mks)
- c) Draw an SC for the above sentence. (3mks)
- d) When is a negative particle added to the main verb rather than to an element in the auxiliary? Show such an SC phrase structure. (6mks)
- e) Give **three** reasons why Transformational Generative Grammar separated auxiliary from the verb phrase. Illustrate your answers. (6mks)