

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: May 2017

B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: ADVANCED SYNTAX

COURSE NUMBER: ALL204

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
- 2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
- 3. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 1

- (i) Define Head-to-Head movement.
- (ii) Name two (2) types of Head-to-Head movement in Modern English.
- (iii) For the two (2) types of Head-to-Head movement that you named in (ii), give one (1) Modern English example in which the first type applies, but not the second type.
- (iv) For the two (2) types of Head-to-Head movement that you named in (ii), give one (1) Modern English example in which the second type applies, but not the first type.
- (v) Use X-bar theoretic phrase-structure trees to illustrate the two (2) types of Head-to-Head movement that you named in (ii).

[25 marks]

Question 2

- (i) Why is X-bar theory considered to be an improvement over previous theories of phrase-structure?
- (ii) What is the X-bar schema?
- (iii) What is the theoretical purpose of the X-bar schema?
- (iv) Choose three lexical word categories. Use the X-bar schema to show how phrases headed by each of these lexical word categories has a structure that is parallel to the structure of the other two.

[25 marks]

Question 3

(i) Choose three (3) of the following terms. For each one of the terms that you choose, give a definition and one (1) example from any language except Modern English.

- a) IP
- b) AdjP
- c) CP
- d) AdvP

(ii) Show where each one of the terms in (i) may appear in an X-bar theoretic phrase-structure tree.

[25 marks]

SECTION B

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 4

- (i) Define the Verb-Second construction.
- (ii) Give two (2) examples of the Verb-Second construction from two (2) languages of your choice.
- (iii) For one (1) of the examples you gave in (ii), show how it is derived using an X-bar theoretic phrase-structure tree.
- (iv) Give two (2) functions which Verb-Second constructions are used for in human languages. For each function that you give, name one (1) language that uses a Verb-Second construction for this function.
- (v) Why are Verb-Second constructions analyzed as instances of movement in generative syntax?

[25 marks]

Question 5

- (i) Name and define three (3) types of predicate-argument structure.
- (ii) Give two (2) examples of each type of predicate-argument structure that you named in (i) from any language or languages of your choice, except Modern English.

[25 marks]

Question 6

- (i) Give one (1) example of a constituent question with an embedded clause in Modern English.
- (ii) Draw a complete X-bar theoretic phrase-structure tree for the sentence you gave in (i). Identify each instance of movement and indicate where it occurs in the tree.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTION PAPER