

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION – 2010

TITLE OF COURSE : GRAMMAR II – INTRODUCTION TO SYNTAX

COURSE CODE : ENG 201

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. This paper consists of 3 questions.**
- 2. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.**
- 3. Each question is worth 20 marks.**
- 4. Good English will attract credit.**
- 5. This paper consists of 6 pages, cover page included.**

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

QUESTION 1

a) Here is a passage that contains various kinds of phrases. Answer each question by selecting an option in the list you are offered. (Use the grid provided for your answers)

Once upon a time there was an extremely rich merchant who was quite excessively fond of cats. He very rarely went to his shops in the city without one of his cats, and his favourite cat's name was written on the front doors of all his shops.

- i) What is the first phrase in the story?
 - a) **once upon**
 - b) **once upon a**
 - c) **once upon a time**
 - d) **once upon a time there was**
- ii) What is the phrase that starts with **an**?
 - a) **an extremely rich**
 - b) **an extremely rich merchant**
 - c) **an extremely rich merchant who was quite excessively fond of cats**
 - d) **an extremely**
- iii) What class of phrase is '**an extremely rich merchant**' who was quite excessively fond of cats?
 - a) **noun phrase**
 - b) **preposition phrase**
 - c) **adverbial phrase**
 - d) **adjective phrase**
- iv) What class of phrase is 'in the city'?
 - a) **Noun phrase**
 - b) **Prepositional phrase**
 - c) **Adverbial phrase**
 - d) **Adjective phrase**
- v) What is the function of the phrase 'in the city'?

- a) **Adverbial**
 - b) **Adjectival**
 - c) **Nominal**
 - d) **prepositional.**
- vi) What does 'without one of his cats' modify?
- a) **city**
 - b) **cats**
 - c) **very rarely went**
 - d) **his shops.**
- vii) What is the function of the prepositional phrase 'without one of his cats'?
- a) **adverbial**
 - b) **adjectival**
 - c) **prepositional**
 - d) **nominal**
- viii) What is *name* modified by
- a) **written**
 - b) **front doors**
 - c) **his favourite cat's**
 - d) **none of the above**
- ix) What is the noun phrase that has semantically functioned as an agent in the second sentence?
- a) **his shops**
 - b) **the city**
 - c) **he**
 - d) **his cats**
- x) What is the noun phrase that has functioned as the affected in the first sentence?
- a) **a time**
 - b) **an extremely rich merchant**
 - c) **excessively fond**
 - d) **cats**

[10 marks]

ANSWER GRID FOR QUESTION 1

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

[10 marks]

b) State the nature of the phrases below and then use them in filling the spaces in the passage underneath.

- along the cliffs
- every weekend
- last Saturday
- to look at the whale
- with a rolling motion

I go running.....(i).....with my friends from the jogging club.....(ii)....., we were doing a five kilometre run from Umgeni through eShowe bank. As we were running.....(iii).....at the edge of the sea, someone shouted, 'Look!' There was a grey whale out in the ocean, about a hundred metres from the shore. We all stopped running.....(iv)..... It was swimming.....(v)....., its tail flipping out of the water every few seconds.

QUESTION 2

Combine the sentences in each set below into a single clear sentence with at least one participial phrase.

- i) The dishwasher was invented in 1889.
 - The dishwasher was invented by an Indiana housewife.
 - The first dishwasher was driven by a steam engine.

- ii) I took small sips from a can of coke.
 - I was sitting on the ground in a shady corner.
 - I was sitting with my back against the wall.

- iii) I was sitting on the window ledge
 - The ledge overlooked the narrow street.
 - I watched the children.
 - The children were frolicking in the snow of the season.

- iv) The first edition of Infant Care was published by the US government.
 - The first edition of Infant care was published in 1914.
 - The first edition of Infant care recommended the use of peat moss and disposable diapers.

- v) The house sat stately upon a hill.
 - The house was grey.
 - The house was weatherworn.
 - The house was surrounded by barren tobacco fields.

- vi) I washed the windows in a fever of fear.
 - I whipped the squeegee swiftly up and down the glass.
 - I feared that some member of the gang might see me.
- vii) Goldsmith smiled.
 - He bunched his cheeks like twin roles of toilet paper.
 - His cheeks were fat.
 - The toilet paper was smooth.
 - The toilet paper was pink.
- viii) The roaches scurried in and out of the breadbox.
 - The roaches sang chanteys.
 - The roaches sang as they worked.
 - The roaches paused only to thumb their noses.
 - They thumbed their noses jeeringly.
 - They thumbed their noses in my direction.
- ix) The medieval peasant was distracted by war.
 - The medieval peasant was weakened by malnutrition.
 - The medieval peasant was exhausted by his struggle to earn a living.
 - The medieval peasant was an easy prey for the dreadful Black Death.
- x) He eats slowly.
 - He eats steadily.
 - He sucks the sardine oil from his fingers.
 - The sardine oil is rich.
 - He sucks the oil with slow and complete relish.

[2 marks each = 20 in all]

QUESTION 3

With the aid of two examples per claim, discuss the adjective phrase.

[20 marks]