

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION  
MAY 2011

- TITLE OF PAPER:** GRAMMAR 1: A SURVEY OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR
- COURSE CODE:** ENG 101
- TIME ALLOWED:** TWO (2) HOURS
- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. THIS PAPER HAS FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.
  2. ANSWER **TWO** (2) QUESTIONS
  2. QUESTION **ONE** (1) IS COMPULSORY AND IS WORTH **40** MARKS.
  3. CHOOSE THE SECOND QUESTION FROM QUESTIONS 2 TO 4. THESE ARE WORTH **20** MARKS EACH.
  4. PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS SHOULD FOLLOW LINGUISTIC CONVENTIONS WHERE APPROPRIATE.
  5. PROPER USE OF LANGUAGE IS A REQUIREMENT.

**This paper should not be opened until permission has been granted by the invigilator.**

**Question 1 (compulsory)**

- a) What is the major contribution of prescriptive grammar to the study of language today and what were its limitations? (10 marks)
- b) (i) What is the distinction between finite verbs and non-finite verbs? Give one example for each. (4 marks)
- ii) Name three types of non-finite verbs. Use each of them in a sentence. (6 marks)
- c) Describe in detail the three syntactic functions of the adjective. (15 marks)
- d) Identify and, in one sentence, briefly explain five properties of human language. (5 marks)
- [40 marks]

**Question 2**

Syntactically, the adverb or adverb phrase functions as an adverbial. And the adverbial is divided into three kinds. Discuss the three types of the adverbial in detail, also showing other grammatical structures that realize them other than the adverb or adverb phrase.

[20 marks]

**Question 3**

- a) Identify the word class that has been underlined in the sentences below:
- i) My mother is leaving next week.
- ii) She is very intelligent.
- iii) That man bought a second hand car.
- iv) This is the car that he bought with his pension.
- v) Many people are not content with a living wage.

(10 marks)

- b) Identify the indefinite pronouns in each of the following passages and identify their antecedents.

Someone in my class recently wrote a paper about Native American history, especially the establishment of reservations. No one realized in the beginning that the land allocated for reservation would eventually shrink. When the first two reservations were developed, both were on land that white settlers wanted, but neither comprised enough land to warrant white aggression. Even so, the government warned everyone who travelled westward to beware of attacks. Also, the government asked everybody living on reservations to change their customs and act more like the white settlers. Most, however, mistrusted the white government. Of all the Native American chiefs, one did come forth to demand that the old treaties designating reservation boundaries be respected. But government officials looked for loopholes in the treaties, and they found plenty. Each provided the means by which the U.S. government could force the Native Americans onto smaller sections of land.

(10 marks)

[20 marks]

#### Question 4

Explain the following in detail. Use one example to illustrate your answer:

- |      |                                       |                |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| i)   | Regular nouns and irregular nouns     | <u>5 marks</u> |
| ii)  | Primary and secondary auxiliary verbs | <u>5 marks</u> |
| iii) | Prepositional phrases                 | <u>5 marks</u> |
| iv)  | Transitive and intransitive verbs     | <u>5 marks</u> |

[20 marks]