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**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR  
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM AND MASS  
COMMUNICATION**

**COURSE CODE: JMC326**

**COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH SEMANTICS**

**DATE: 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022**

**TIME: 8.00 - 10.00AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** Questions

**TIME: 2 Hours**

**Question One (30 marks)**

- (a) Provide four definitions of pragmatics as a branch of linguistics (6 marks)
- (b) Explain three shortcomings of 'mental image' view of word meaning (6 marks)
- (c) Describe any four usefulness of pragmatics to you as a student of journalism and mass communication (8 marks)
- (d) Explain the sense and reference of the word 'president' in the following sentence then explain their differences in terms of meaning (6 marks)

*The president will officially open the new port at five o'clock.*

- (e) Using examples, explain your understanding of the term 'performative verb' (4 marks)

**Question Two (20 marks)**

- (a) Explain these three types of meaning according to Leech (1981) (6 marks)
- (i) Reflective      (ii) Collocative      (iii) Thematic
- (b) Describe any five shortcomings of dictionary definitions of word meanings (10 marks)
- (c) What is word meaning according to the Behaviourist theory of meaning? (4 marks)

**Question Three (20 marks)**

- (a) Explain the five types of antonyms with illustrations (10 marks)
- (b) Draw a semantic feature matrix based on the lexemes and features given below when used within a university setting (10 marks)

**Lexemes:** lecturer, student, registrar, parent,

**Features:** [EARNS A SALARY] [PAYS FEES], [LEARNS], [TEACHES] [WORKS]

**Question Four (20 marks)**

- (a) Construct two sentences that have a personal, spatial and temporal deictics (4 marks)

(b) For the spatial and temporal deictics identified in (a), state whether they are distal or proximal deictics (4 marks)

(c) Identify the presupposition in each sentence and state the class it belongs to (12 marks)

(i) Your car is strong and fast

(ii) I realized that I was late

(iii) He no longer eats Githeri

(iv) When did he marry?

(v) I pretended to be the boss

(vi) If I knew him, I could have welcomed him

**Question Five (20 marks)**

(a) Explain what the maxims of quality and relevance states (mean) (4 marks)

(b) Provide two sentences that seem to flout the maxims given in (a) (4 marks)

(c) Explain the meaning of the following types of implicatures using examples (5 marks)

(i) generalized conversational (ii) particularized conversational

(iii) scalar (iv) conversational (v) conventional

(d) State if there is any entailment between A and B and the type of entailment (4 marks)

(i) A: At least 10 people were invited. B: Some people were invited

(ii) A: John was an ambassador to Kenya. B: John knows Nairobi

(e) Distinguish between these concepts in Speech Act theory (3 marks)

(a) Locutionary act (ii) Illocutionary act (iii) Perlocutionary act