



# **GRETSA UNIVERSITY - THIKA**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2021 SEMESTER**

### **BACHELOR OF EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE: ENGL 401**

**COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED ENGLISH SYNTAX**

**DATE: 18 NOVEMBER 2021**

**TIME: 3.00 PM - 6.00 PM**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. SECTION A IS **COMPULSORY**.
2. SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER **THREE** QUESTIONS.
3. **DO NOT** WRITE ANYTHING ON THIS QUESTION PAPER AS IT WILL BE AN EXAM IRREGULARITY.
4. ALL ROUGH WORK SHOULD BE AT THE BACK OF YOUR ANSWER BOOKLET AND CROSSED OUT.

**CAUTION:** *All exam rooms are under CCTV surveillance during the examination period.*



## **SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

### **Question One**

- a) What do you understand by the term phrase structure rule [4 Marks]
- b) Explain the difference between obligatory transformation and optional transformation according to transformational generator [6 Marks]
- c) Using phrase marked, present the two basic commitments of an English sentence in the following sentence [10 Marks]  
The woman who was crying jumped into the flooded river.
- d) With illustrations discuss the two main levels of sentence structure [10 Marks]
- e) Discuss the deletion transformational rule in transformation generative grammar [10 Marks]

## **SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS**

### **Question Two**

- a) Giving example explain the sub categories of English verb according to the phrase structure role [8 Marks]
- b) Explain why the phrase structure rules are referred to as rewrite rules. [4 Marks]
- c) With illustration discuss the permutation rule nature of reorganising of a structure in a string. [8 Marks]

### **Question Three**

- a) Analyze the following sentence into an input tree diagram presenting both the SD and SC transformations according to the transformational rule. [10 Marks]
- b) With illustration analyse a gapping transformation rule as highlighted by transformation generative grammar [10 Marks]

### **Question Four**

- a) Giving examples of a sentence present a lexical entry for a noun, verb and determiner as highlighted in standard theory in Lexicon [12 Marks]
- b) Discuss the initiative knowledge competence by a native speaker as provided by generative transformation grammar. [8 Marks]

### **Question Five**

- a) Discuss how the sub-categorization rule and the selection restriction rule are broken in the following sentences [8 Marks]
- (a) The boy thought Mary
- (b) The James saw a Jane

(c) Juma cried a tree

(d) The boy drank the book

b) Discuss the notion of passive transformation in transformational grammar [8 Marks]

c) Explain the difference between competence and performance according to Chomsky in his generative grammar theory [4 Marks]

### **Question Six**

a) Explain the importance of studying phrase structure grammar as a linguistic student

[10 Marks]

b) Analyse the following sentence applying the affix flopping transformation rule [10 Marks]

The boy could cross the river