



GRETSA UNIVERSITY - THIKA

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
MAY-AUGUST 2023 SEMESTER**

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: ENGL 301

COURSE TITLE: SEMANTICS

DATE: 03 AUGUST 2023

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) Using appropriate illustrations, Distinguish between the following:
- i. Denotative and connotative meaning
 - ii. Lexical and grammatical meaning
 - iii. Semantics and Pragmatics
 - iv. Reference and referent
 - v. lexical and structural ambiguity [20 Marks]
- b) Examine the semantic categories and relationships which apply to sentences in the Truth-conditional theory of meaning [20 Marks]

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

Question Two

- a) Semantic knowledge is crucial in communication. Explain. [8 Marks]
- b) Briefly explain the FOUR components of associative meaning. [12 Marks]

Question three

- a) What are the characteristics of a mental lexicon? [4 Marks]
- b) Distinguish between definite and indefinite expressions. [8 Marks]
- c) What are the semantic roles of the underlined in the following sentences:
- i. That boy rings the bell
 - ii. He attacked me with a machete in the street
 - iii. The children ran from the pool to the playground
 - iv. I saw a mosquito [8 Marks]

Question Four

- a) What is the relationship between Semantics and:
- i. anthropology
 - ii. philosophy
 - iii. psychology
 - iv. Linguistics. [16 Marks]
- b) make a chart listing the componential features of the following:
- i. Girl
 - ii. Ewe [4 Marks]

Question five

- a) With relevant examples, show how personal computing (web related communication) suggest a semantic relationship with the real world [10 Marks]
- b) By use of two ICA tree diagrams, disambiguate the expression, '*they sold new cars and lorries*' [6 Marks]
- c) What is a lexical field? [4 Marks]

Question six

Giving examples, discuss the notion of sense relations as used in semantics **[20 Marks]**