



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, ABUJA
Faculty of Arts
Department of Languages...

2021_1 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: ENG 432

COURSE TITLE: PRAGMATICS

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any 4 Questions

1. Write short notes on the following:
 - a) Lexicon of pragmatics **(4 marks)**
 - b) Discourse Analysis **(5 marks)**
 - c) Interpersonal context **(4 marks)**
 - d) Time deixis **(4½ marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)
2. (a) “Pragmatics is the study of speaker’s intended meaning”. Discuss **(3½ marks)**
(b) Discuss the scope of pragmatics. **(6 marks)**
(c) Following Carnap’s perspective, compare semantics and pragmatics. **(8 marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

3 (a) Briefly explain the pragmatic concept of face. **(3½ marks)**

(b) Read the following passage, state and explain the types of face acts performed by the italicized utterances in the text. **(8 marks)**

Mr Gidado walked into the living room and sighted the caretaker from a distance. It had been a very busy day at the office and he had planned to take at least one full hour to sleep before leaving for his neighbour’s flat where he had promised to visit to settle yet another quarrel between the man and his wife. He was already getting worn out by their incessant quarrelling and fighting but he couldn’t look on and watch them kill themselves, could he? He was definitely not in the mood for any discussion with his caretaker, particularly as he suspected he called to talk about his rent which was one month due. Nonetheless, he tried to appear as welcoming as possible. “Ha, Barrister Sam, how are you, Sir? The weather has been very hot today. *It seems you have been waiting for some time. My wife closes late from her shop these days. Don’t*

you think, you should enter and sit down? The caretaker responded with a grunt.

“Good evening Mr Gidado and happy new month. *Your rent is due please.*”

(c) Discuss the methodology that you could adopt in the research of the topic:

“Pragmatics study of solidarity discourse in Nigeria’s campaigns”. **(6 marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

4 (a) Distinguish between conversational implicature and explicature as pragmatics concepts. **(4 marks)**

(b) With reference to Austin (1952), explain three conditions that could make a speech act infelicitous. **(6 marks)**

(c) Explain the interface between pragmatics and core linguistics. **(7½ marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

5a) Discuss the notion of pragmatic presupposition. **(5½ marks)**

b) Explain speaker’s presupposition in the following utterances: **(6 marks)**

1. Oba of Ilese is a young man.

2. Tunde bought another car last week.

3. Obinna’s wife is a pharmacist.

c) Explain what you can infer from the following utterances: **(6 marks)**

1. Just like the last time, Ada and Henry are fighting this morning.

2. Some of the students passed their TESOL test.

3. Can you lend me your Wole Soyinka?

(17½/45 minutes)