



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, ABUJA

Faculty of Arts

Department of Languages

2021_2 EXAMINATION...

COURSE CODE: ENG 331

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO SEMANTICS

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any **4** Questions

1a) Briefly compare philosophical semantics and linguistic semantics. **(6 marks)**

b) With reference to referential theory of meaning, comment on the contributions of Ogden and Richards (1923) to the field of semantics. **(5 marks)**

c) Using one example, discuss affective meaning. **(6½ marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

2a) Explain the term conceptual meaning. **(3½ marks)**

b) Using Componential Analysis, provide the contrastive semantic features for the following words: **(8 marks)**

i) boy **(2 marks)**

ii) woman **(2 marks)**

iii) man **(2 marks)**

iv) girl **(2 marks)**

c) Provide the intended meaning in the following sentences: **(6 marks)**

i) ADE married her last year. **(2 marks)**

ii) amira will be in KANO tonight. **(2 marks)**

iii) the landlord GAVE money to some of his indigent tenants. **(2 marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

3a) Comment on the notion of absoluteness of meaning in English synonyms. **(5 marks)**

b) Discuss gradable and non-gradable antonyms as forms of lexical relations. **(6 marks)**

c) With two examples, explain cases of ambiguity in the use of homonymy in English sentences. **(6½ marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

4a) Briefly explain the term fallacy. **(3½ marks)**

b) Discuss amphiboly and accent as forms of fallacies of misinterpretation. **(8 marks)**

c) Compare the fallacy of the bandwagon and the fallacy of appeals. **(6 marks)**

(17½/45 minutes)

5a) Explain the concept of Nigerian English. **(3½ marks)**

b) Identify four common semantic problems identifiable in Nigerian English. **(8 marks)**

c) Comment on the influence of culture on meaning in the following passage: **(6 marks)**

To my fathers in the house, I say welcome. Soon, we will call on our wife, Morenike Adedeji to come out and be introduced to her in-laws to be. My junior brother, Aderibigbe has gone to bring the refreshments and will soon join us. Welcome, once again and may God smile on our deliberations today.

(17½/45 minutes)