



NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FACULTY OF COMMERCE, HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES

QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS	
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COURSE CODE: SOS721S	COURSE NAME: STUDY OF SEMANTICS
SESSION: JANUARY 2025	PAPER: THEORY
DURATION: 3 HOURS	MARKS: 100

SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER	
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INSTRUCTIONS
1. Answer ALL the questions. 2. Write clearly and neatly. 3. Number the answers clearly.

PERMISSIBLE MATERIALS

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF _6_ PAGES (Including this front page)

Answer **ALL** QUESTIONS.

SECTION A

Question 1 Multiple choice

There are four suggested answers to each question. Write your choice next to the answer number.

1. Choose the correct semantic features for “daughter”. (1)
 - A. [+human], [+female], [+adult]
 - B. [+human], [+female], [+child]
 - C. [+human], [+male], [+child]
 - D. [+animal], [+female], [-adult]

2. Which of the following is not hyponymy of vegetable? (1)
 - A. coconut
 - B. carrot
 - C. spinach
 - D. cabbage

3. A sentence that has more than one meaning is _____. (1)
 - A. analytic
 - B. anomalous
 - C. ambiguous
 - D. synthetic

4. Identify the semantic role of the underlined part in the sentence below. (1)

He supplied the reporters with information.

 - A. agent
 - B. goal
 - C. theme
 - D. location

5. Figuratively, the sentence “*The wind howled angrily around the house all night*” is _____. (1)
 - A. personification
 - B. ambiguous
 - C. anomalous
 - D. metaphor

6. Which of the following is a pair of gradable antonyms? (1)
- A. Sink – float
 - B. True – false
 - C. Narrow – wide
 - D. Import – export
7. _____ is a sense relation in which a single word has two or more slightly different but closely related meanings. (1)
- A. homonyms
 - B. polysemy
 - C. synonyms
 - D. hyponyms
8. The relationship between the sentences in the following pair is _____. (1)
- i. *Anna walked to town yesterday.*
 - ii. *Anna went to town yesterday.*
- A. entailment
 - B. paraphrase
 - C. contradiction
 - D. no relation
9. A[n] _____ is a string of words put together by the grammatical rules of a language. (1)
- A. sentence
 - B. utterance
 - C. anomaly
 - D. entailment
10. “She cannot bear children” is an example of _____. (1)
- A. Structural paraphrase
 - B. lexical paraphrase
 - C. structural ambiguity
 - D. lexical ambiguity

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SECTION B Structured questions

Question 2

11. Fill in each of the blanks with the appropriate word.
- a) _____ is a violation of semantic rules to create nonsense. (1)
 - b) _____ involves the logical relationship of inclusion. (1)
 - c) _____ is a relation in which the referent of a word is totally included in the referent of another word. (1)
 - d) _____ are two words which belong to the same grammatical category but are opposed in meaning to each other. (1)
 - e) _____ is a sentential relation that applies between two sentences where the truth of one implies the truth of the other because of meanings of the words involved. (1)
12. Determine the superordinate term for each of the following sets.
- i. Sedan, SUV, hatchback, convertible, pick-up (bakkie) (1)
 - ii. Daisy, primrose, rose, carnation, daffodil (1)
 - iii. Hammer, screw-driver, drill, pliers (1)
 - iv. Stove, fridge, freezer, microwave, oven (1)
 - v. Sofa, bed, coffee-table, chair (1)
13. Identify the type of figure of speech (non-literal meaning) used in each of the following sentences.
- a) The Zambezi River ate the bank away due to flash floods. (1)
 - b) Never in a billion years will he admit defeat. (1)
 - c) It takes two to tango. (1)
 - d) When the State House called, the governor went at once. (1)
 - e) The dormitory is like a cave. (1)
14. State whether the following pairs of antonyms are non-gradable (binary), gradable or relational (converse).
- i. Bright – dark (1)
 - ii. Front - back (1)
 - iii. Married – single (1)
 - iv. false – true (1)
 - v. cheap - expensive (1)

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Question 3

15. Identify the thematic (semantic) role(s) of each of the underlined parts of the following expressions.

- a) Angela was reading stories to the children this morning. (3)
- b) The climber finally reached the summit of the mountain. (3)
- c) I checked a book out of the library yesterday. (3)
- d) My friend was annoyed by the sudden appearance of her ex-lover at the party. (3)

16. Copy and complete the following componential analysis grid below in your answer book. Make use of the binary opposites (+/-). Insert (+) in the corresponding box if the semantic feature is present, or (-) if the semantic feature is absent.

	Adult	Baby	Male	Female
Stallion				
Mare				
filly				
colt				

16÷2

(8)

17. Determine the sense relation that exists between the two sentences in each of the following pairs.

- a) (i) Ndumba is married Fenny. (2)
(ii) Fenny is married to Ndumba.
- b) (i) Angula is the father of Nangolo. (2)
(ii) Nangolo is the father of Angula.
- c) (i) Tjavari plays netball. (2)
(ii) Someone/Tjivari plays sport.
- d) (i) Gariseb is a bachelor. (2)
(ii) Gariseb is a man.

- e) (i) Some of the students came to the party. (2)
(ii) Not all the students came to the party.

- f) (i) Ndapewa is a spinster. (2)
(ii) Ndapewa is married.

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Question 4

18. Re-arrange the following words into the given semantic fields below.

coat, limp, tiptoe, trousers, plod, shorts, shirt, amble,

- a) Articles of clothing (4)

- b) Ways of walking (4)

19. Depict the interface that exists between semantics and each of the following levels of linguistic analyses: phonology: morphology, and syntax. (15)

20. The seven types of meaning by Leech (1990) have been often reduced to three major ones, namely, conceptual meaning, thematic meaning, associated meaning, as in Ola-Busari (2016). Differentiate them. (15)

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END OF QUESTION PAPER