



**PAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Faculty Name: Human Sciences

Department Name: Communication

QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH	
QUALIFICATION CODE: 07BAEN	LEVEL: 7
COURSE: THE STUDY OF SEMANTICS	COURSE CODE: SOS721S
SESSION: NOVEMBER 2025	PAPER: THEORY
DURATION: 3 HOURS	MARKS: 100

FIRST OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER	
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THIS EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF 3 PAGES
(Including this front page)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer all the questions.
2. Write clearly and neatly.

Answer ALL QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

Discuss the importance of Semantics within the field of language studies (10)

QUESTION 2

Explain the main differences between conceptual, thematic and associative meaning. (10)

QUESTION 3

3.1(a) Define the term hyponymy in semantics. (2)

(b) Provide three examples of hyponym–superordinate relationships and briefly explain each. (6)

3.2 (a) Define the term oxymoron as a figure of speech. (2)

(b) Provide 3 examples of oxymorons and explain them. (6)

QUESTION 4

4.1 Distinguish between common components and diagnostic components characteristic of componential analysis with appropriate examples. (6)

4.2 Using the binary feature system (+ or –), complete the table below to distinguish between the following animals: lion, elephant, cat, dog, leopard, and horse. One correct binary is worth **0,5 marks**.

(12)

Animal	mammal	Wild	Carnivore	Domesticated
Lion				
Elephant				
Cat				
Dog				
Leopard				
Horse				

QUESTION 5

5.1 Define the term ambiguity (2)

5.2 With appropriate examples, explain the distinction between lexical and structural ambiguity. (4)

5.3 Explain the ambiguity in the following sentences (6)

(a) Lexical ambiguity

- She cannot bear children
- We will give you a ring tonight
- I saw a man with a telescope

(b) Structural (sentence) ambiguity

(4)

- He left her in tears.
- Visiting relatives can be a bore.

QUESTION 6

Mention and define any seven ways of conveying non-literal meaning? (any 7) (14)

QUESTION 7

Discuss the 8 effects of non-literal meaning to language that you were taught in this course. (16)