



**NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

FACULTY OF COMMERCE, HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES

QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS	
QUALIFICATION CODE: 07BAEN	LEVEL: 7
COURSE CODE: SOS721S	COURSE NAME: Study of Semantics
SESSION: Nov 2024	PAPER: THEORY
DURATION: 3 HOURS	MARKS: 100

FIRST OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION	
EXAMINER	Mr. JL Masule
MODERATOR:	Dr. A Simataa

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Answer ALL the questions. 2. Write clearly and neatly. 3. Number the answers clearly.

PERMISSIBLE MATERIALS

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF _5_ PAGES (Including this front page)

Answer **ALL** QUESTIONS.

SECTION A

Question 1: Multiple choice

Each question has four suggested answers. Write your selected answer next to the corresponding number.

1. Which of the following does not belong to the denotative meaning of "woman"? (1)
 - A. Talkative
 - B. Female
 - C. Human
 - D. Mature

2. The figure of speech used in "*She has an ear for music*" is _____. (1)
 - A. metaphor
 - B. personification
 - C. metonymy
 - D. simile

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

4. Identify the semantic feature shared by all six nouns in the set below? (1)

Niece, daughter and sister, nun, woman, and girl.

 - A. Young
 - B. Female
 - C. Smart
 - D. Old

5. Figuratively, the sentence "*The sorrow is chewing my bones*" is _____. (1)
 - A. contradictory
 - B. ambiguous
 - C. anomalous
 - D. personification

6. Which of the following may be one meaning of "*She is a babysitter*"? (1)
 - A. She sits on a baby
 - B. She is a baby
 - C. She likes babies
 - D. This sister is a baby

7. Two words having the same or almost the same denotative meaning meanings are _____. (1)
- homonyms
 - antonyms
 - synonyms
 - hyponyms
8. The relationship between the sentences in the following pair is _____. (1)
- Sinvula walked to school yesterday.*
 - Sinvula went to school yesterday.*
- entailment
 - paraphrase
 - contradiction
 - no relation
9. The relationship between 'a bear' and 'to bear' is _____. (1)
- homonymy
 - homography
 - homophony
 - polysemy
10. Figuratively, the sentence "*Tangeni is so strong that he can lift 2 tons*" is _____. (1)
- personification
 - hyperbole
 - metaphor
 - simile

[10]

SECTION B Structured questions

Question 2

11. Fill in each of the blanks with the appropriate word.
- _____ is a branch of linguistics which deals with the study of meaning. (1)
 - _____ is a sentence that is necessarily false, as a result of the senses of the words in it. (1)
 - _____ is a relation in which the referent of a word is totally included in the referent of another word. (1)
 - Sematic meaning is context-free whereas _____ meaning is context-dependent. (1)
 - The type of ambiguity arising from the ambiguity of a word is _____ ambiguity. (1)

12. Determine the superordinate term in each of the following sets.
- i. venison, mutton, beef, meat, chicken, pork (1)
 - ii. milk, dairy, butter, yogurt, cheese, cheddar (1)
 - iii. cabbage, celery, broccoli, spinach, vegetable (1)
 - iv. hurricane, tornado, gale, storm, typhoon (1)
 - v. garbage truck, tank truck, crane truck, truck, concrete mixer (1)
13. Identify the type of figure of speech (non-literal meaning) used in each of the following sentences.
- a) Death grasped its arms around me. (1)
 - b) A camel is a ship in a desert. (1)
 - c) It takes forever to cook this meat. (1)
 - d) Beijing announced its new policies on trade. (1)
 - e) He sprints like a cheetah. (1)
14. State whether the following pairs of antonyms are non-gradable (binary), gradable or relational (converse).
- i. tie – untie (1)
 - ii. expensive – cheap (1)
 - iii. parent – offspring (1)
 - iv. false – true (1)
 - v. asleep – awake (1)

[20]

Question 3

15. Define the following concepts.
- a) Collocation (3)
 - b) Truth condition (3)
 - c) Semantic field (3)
 - d) Presupposition (3)
 - e) Taboos (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	Non-adult	Male	Female	Divorced
Bachelor					
Spinster					

10÷2

(5)

17. Explain the meaning relation (semantic relationships) that exists between each of the following concepts.
- a) Paraphrase versus synonymy (4)
 - b) Contradiction versus antonymy (4)
 - c) Ambiguity versus polysemy (4)

[32]

Question 4

- 18. Explain the importance of semantics in translation. (8)
- 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)

[38]

TOTAL

100

END OF QUESTION PAPER