

LAIKIPIA



LING 813

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

EXAMINATION FOR THE MASTERS OF ARTS
DEGREE IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

LING 813: GENERATIVE SYNTAX

STREAM: R

TIME:3 HRS

DAY: MONDAY (12.30-3.30PM)

DATE:02/02/2026

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (2 PAGES)

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INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE

1a) Represent the structure of the following sentence using X-BAR Syntax

A car whizzed right by the crowd. **(10 marks)**

b) Identify specifiers, heads and complements in the sentence and explain them. **(10 marks)**

c) With reference to the following sentences, distinguish between control and raising verbs. **(10 marks)**

(i) The trader seemed to favour us.

(ii) The trader tried to favour us.

QUESTION TWO

2a) Explain the role of transformation rules. **(4 marks)**

b) In the sentences below, describe the transformations involved giving the structural description and structural change.

i) Where is the school? **(5 marks)**

ii) The class was not left behind **(6 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

3. a) Explain the difference between an adverbial and a complement. **(5 marks)**

b) Using the sentence below represent the adverbial and complement in X-bar syntax
They took their luggage this morning from the store. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

4. a) Using English language as an example, explain the head parameter. **(5 marks)**

In the following sentence, explain the application of the three binding principles showing the referents of the various pronouns. **(10 marks)**

Jane prepared her meal and shared it with her servant who was so grateful to her.

QUESTION FIVE

5.a) Using a sentence of your own, explain recursion. **(5 marks)**

b) Explain deletion under conditions of identity and dative deletion. **(10 marks)**