

LAIKIPIA



ENGL 421

UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2ND SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

**FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

ENGL 421: ADVANCED SYNTAX

STREAM: R

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: FRIDAY (8.30-10.30AM)

DATE: 19/4/24

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3 PAGES)

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.



INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Explain the ambiguity in each of the following: (6marks)
- (i) Flying planes can be dangerous
 - (ii) Onyango and Njoroge can fish.
 - (iii) The cabinet secretary's appointment was alarming.
- b) Generate only ONE sentence for each of the following rules (6marks)
- i. $S \rightarrow NP$ where $VP \rightarrow V+S$
 - ii. $S \rightarrow NP+VP$ where $NP \rightarrow wh - + s$
 - iii. $S \rightarrow NP+VP$ where $Det \rightarrow wh\text{-word}$
- c) Re-write the following removing the ungrammaticality. (4marks)
- i. Muli and Eva love one another
 - ii. If I was Keter, I'd resign
- d) Write one English phrase for each of the following. (6marks)
- i. $VP = AdvP \quad V \quad AdvP$
 - ii. $PP = P \quad NP$
 - iii. $NP = Det \quad Adj \quad NP$
- e) Explain the following with clear ILLUSTRATIONS.
- a. Government theory. (2marks)
 - b. Binding theory. (2marks)
 - c. Bounding theory. (2marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

"The police might have been training the new recruits."

Change the above sentence into the following. 20mks

- i. Passive.
- ii. Interrogative.
- iii. Negative.

- iv. Imperative.
- v. Wh-question.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Define the concept of Immediate Constituent Analysis and explain four of its weaknesses. (10marks)
- b) Using your knowledge of the affix hopping transformation, Draw a structure capturing an SC phrase marker of the passive form of the sentence: **The Police may have been interrogating the Senator.** (4marks)
- c) Draw two ICA tree diagrams to remove the ambiguity in the sentence “**I took some warm milk and soda.**” (6marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) State four characteristics of a Transformational Grammar Theory (4marks)
- b) Construct sentences that satisfy the following PS rules. (12marks)
 - i. $S \rightarrow \text{Pro} + \text{past tense} + \text{modal} + V + \text{ADV}$
 - ii. $S \rightarrow \text{PN} + \text{present tense} + \text{have} + \text{en} + \text{ing} + V + P + D + N$
 - iii. $S \rightarrow N + \text{past tense} + \text{be} + \text{ing} + V$
 - iv. $S \rightarrow D + \text{Adj} + N + P + D + N + \text{present tense} + V$
- c) Define Phrase Structure Grammar and State three of its weaknesses. (4marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a. Transformations can perform many functions in syntax. Discuss five such functions with illustrations. (15marks)
- b. Use two phrase structure trees to represent the two meanings of the sentence: “The boy saw the man with a telescope.” (5marks)