



**SECOND YEAR EXAMINATIONS IN BACHILOR OF ARTS (EXTERNAL) – 2011/2012**  
HELD IN JUNE / JULY 2013

**ELL 2.15 – INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS**

Answer any five (5) Questions

Duration: 03 hours

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- (1). a. Define *language* using appropriate words. Justify the choice of the elements that you have incorporated in your definition. [10 marks]
- b. “Arbitrariness” and “displacement” are properties of human language. Explain briefly what these terms mean and give an example to illustrate each. [5 marks]
- c. How well, in your opinion, does the word *communication* represent the function of human language? [5 marks]
- (2). a. What are phonemes and allophones? Illustrate your answer with examples. [5 marks]
- b. Briefly explain the different places of articulation, giving relevant sounds as examples. [10 marks]
- c. Write phonetic transcription for the following words:  
i. judge      ii. sing      iii. president      iv. election      v. ship [5 marks]
- (3). a. Briefly explain the following word formation processes.  
i. Borrowing      ii. Blending      iii. clipping      iv. Compounding [10 marks]
- b. Briefly explain why derivation is considered a major word formation process. [10 marks]
- (4). a. What are the different word classes in English? [5 marks]
- b. Draw a tree diagram for the sentence below. [5 marks]
- ‘In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth’
- c. Explain the term *ambiguity* using examples. [10 marks]

(5) a. Explain the semantic relations giving examples. [10 marks]

b. Why do you think the sentence 'my cake ate the apple' is odd? [5 marks]

c. Briefly explain why anaphora and antecedent are important to understand a text. [5 marks]

(6) a. Explain the concepts *language variety* and *dialect* using known languages as examples. [10 marks]

b. What difference do you see between first and second language acquisition/learning? [10 marks]

(7) a. What is caretaker speech? Explain giving the characteristics of caretaker speech. [5 marks]

b. List the prelanguage stages in child language development in the order they take place giving the approximate time period. [5 marks]

c. Briefly argue why communicative approach is preferable over grammar translation method in teaching a second language. [10 marks]

(8) Explain each of these terms.

- i. Bilingualism      ii. Creole      iii. Standard language      iv. Language family

[20 marks]