

1. Old English is said to be typically a 'synthetic' language, while Modern English is said to be an 'analytic' language. Discuss the differences in terms of *word order* and *inflectional morphology*. (5 points)

2. What is *umlaut*? Give two pairs of words in Modern English which show the effect of umlaut. (5 points)

3. What is a 'strong verb'? What is a 'weak verb'? Which of the following are strong verbs and which are weak verbs? (10 points)

run, walk, feel, stand, sell, fly, look, write, want, give

4. Decide which of the following words are spelled the American way and which are spelled the British way. (10 points)

behavior, cheque, airplane, insure, tyre, programme, traveler, analyse, skeptical, maneuver

5. Write the following sentences in phonetic transcription. (10 points)

(a) Please give me the comb.

(b) The horse raced past the judges and won the treasure.

(c) Sue waited a long time.

6. You have some (Chinese) students in your class who make the following errors in pronunciation. Explain each error using phonetic descriptions (e.g., uses a voiced velar stop instead of a voiceless velar stop) and then speculate on the reasons for these errors. (10 points)

(a) *six* student pronounces initial s as sh

(b) *thesis* student pronounces initial th as f

(c) *bell* student pronounces final l as w

(d) *that* student pronounces initial th as l

(e) *paper* student pronounces the word the same as *pepper*

7. Briefly describe three ways in which new words are formed. Do not include any processes that work by adding affixes to existing words or by removing affixes from existing words. (6 points)

8. Briefly explain each of the following terms, using examples where appropriate. (2 points each; total of 18 points)

(a) coreference; (b) antonyms; (c) grammar; (d) tag question; (e) denotation; (f) transformation;  
(g) cleft sentence; (h) recursion; (i) allomorphs.

9. In the following sentence,

*The killer's reevaluation of his troubled past awakened him to new possibilities.*

list, in the order in which they appear in the sentence, (8 points)

- (a) all the free morphemes;
- (b) all the suffixes;
- (c) all the derivational affixes;
- (d) all the function words.

10. Draw the D-structure and the S-structure for the following sentence, showing all lexical categories, all phrasal categories, and the S-node. (7 points)

*Which student will the teacher give the prize to?*

11. Draw the simplest set of phrase structure rules that can generate all the following sentences. (*simplest* means the smallest number of rules and the smallest number of symbols in each rule.) Begin with the rule  $S \rightarrow NP VP$ . (6 points)

*Old teachers never die.*

*Really good students always study for tests.*

*Teachers sometimes disappear after exams.*

12. Consider the following statement:

Semantics and grammar are very closely connected, but the connection is rarely simple or consistent.

Explain this statement, using either *lexical categories* or *grammatical relations* as an example of the connection. (5 points)