

I. Suppose that the regular productive plural morpheme in English has the phonological form /z/ with the meaning plural. State the regular "plural rule" in simple English. Also show how "churches" and "nets" are to be derived. (10%)

II. For each group of words given below, pick out one that does not belong to the group and then explain why it does not belong. (10%)

Example: widower, mother, sister, aunt, seamstress.

Answer: Widower does not belong to the group because while the rest of the group share the property of being female human beings, widower denotes a male.

1. soup, pencil, brick, tree, disk
2. ski, run, hop, jump, swim, walk
3. thin, tall, happy, rich, dead, beautiful
4. book, letter, novel, chalk, encyclopedia, dictionary
5. fry, bake, broil, roast, steam

III. For each of the following categories provide two affixes (prefixes or suffixes) from English and two illustrative examples for each affix. (20%)

1. affixes added to verbs turning them into nouns.
2. affixes added to nouns turning them into verbs
3. affixes added to verbs turning them into adjectives
4. affixes added to adjectives turning them into nouns
5. affixes that do not change the word category of the stem

IV. What are some of the important criteria that can be relied on to draw a line between inflectional morphology and derivational morphology? Are they hard and fast rules that can apply to all cases? The following data may help you figure out the solution to the questions. In your discussion of each criterion, please cite appropriate examples for illustration. (20%)

- 1a. tables, chairs, books, boys, threes, cars, girls
- 1b. unhappy, unreliable, unpatriotic, unpopular, \*unshort, \*unsad, \*untall, \*ungullible
- 2a. friendliest vs. \*friendestly
- 2b. untouchables vs. \*untouchsable
- 2c. photographers vs. \*photographser
- 3a. short (adj.) > shorter (adj.); boy (n.) > boys (n.)
- 3b. read (v.) > readable (adj); quick (adj.) > quickly (adv.)  
but brother (n.) > brotherhood (n.); do (v.) > redo (v.)
- 4a. the men on the moon vs. \*the man on the moons
- 4b. the man on the moon's wife vs. \*the man's on the moon wife
- 4c. two coffees black vs. \*two coffee blacks

(Note that the asterisks mean that the examples are unacceptable)

V. On the basis of the sentences below, describe the formation of imperative sentence in English (imperatives are identified by exclamation marks). Justify the underlying representation of imperative sentences with syntactic and semantic evidence. (20%)

- (a) Think about yourself!
  - (b) I thought about him.
  - (c) \*Take care of himself!
  - (d) You take care of yourselves.
  - (e) \*Think about you!
  - (f) \*You take care of ourselves!
  - (g) \*Thought about yourself!
  - (h) \*Take care of myself!
  - (i) Take care of yourself!
  - (j) You think about yourselves!
  - (k) \*Think about themselves!
  - (l) You take care of yourself.
  - (m) \*We think about yourself.
  - (n) Think about yourselves!
  - (o) \*Take care of herself!
  - (p) \*We think about ourselves!
- (Sentences with \* are not well-formed.)

VI. English has far more words than any other language because, in addition to native Germanic stock, it has borrowed so many words from many sources. Give two languages from which English has borrowed a large number of words and give at least three examples of English words from each of those languages. (10%)

VII. How is the grammar of the English language today different from the grammar of the English of 1000 years ago? Give at least three specific aspects of this difference and explain them with illustrative examples. (10%)