

English 0120713: Semantics

**FINAL
EXAMINATION**

Tuesday , June 12,2007

Pages 1 – 14

Student's Full Name

In Arabic : _____

In English : _____

Student's ID (Registration number) : -

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Tutors's Name (in Arabic) :

EXAM QUESTIONS, GRADES AND TIME ALLOCATION FOR EACH QUESTION:

QUESTION	MINUTES	TOTAL POINTS	POINTS EARNED*
questions 1-6	27 each	8 each	
Total number of questions you must answer : 5			

- To be filled out by tutor

Time Allowed : 120 minutes

There are **6** questions in this paper: you are required to answer any five questions..

You are expected to divide your time as follows:

- a. 12 minutes for reading through the whole paper.
- b. 27 minutes for answering each question.

This examination carries 40 marks equally allocated to the questions (8 marks to each question).

You can answer the questions in any order . You should write only in the space provided after each question . Cross out any rough notes you make which you do not wish to be considered

At the end of the examination

Check that you have written your personal identifier and examination number .

Failure to do so will mean that your work cannot be identified .

Question 1 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

**What is the difference between semantics and pragmatics ?
(your answer should be in the form of a coherent and well
organized 250 - word essay)**

Question 2 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

Discuss and illustrate (give examples of) any three of the following semantic terms, concepts, and/or relations:

- **conceptual hierarchy of inclusion**
- **ostensive definition.**
- **Prototype of a semantic concept.**
- **Polysemy.**

Question 3 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

Verbs can be classified into factives and non-factives. Use the following verbs in sentences of your own and show to which category they belong:

- realize
- promise
- thought
- blamed
- regretted
- accused

Question 4 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

Tense is a deictic system which allows speakers to relate references they make to the time (the now) of the utterance. As pointed out by saeed, "most grammatical tense systems allow the speaker to describe situations as prior to, concurrent with, or following the act of speaking". Taking this into consideration, draw diagrams representing the tenses in the following sentences.

- **she wrote a letter to me.**
- **She is writing a letter to me.**
- **She will write a letter to me.**
- **By 1990 she had lost her husband, and her father.**
- **By 2020 they will have experienced two major earthquakes.**

Question 5 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

"Modal systems allow speakers to modulate (their) commitment to the factuality of statements they make". Give and illustrate three linguistic strategies native speaker use in order to do this.

Question 6 (8 marks) (27 minutes)

Modal verbs can serve two functions: signaling both epistemic and deontic modality.

Discuss and illustrative the social information deontic modals communicate.

