

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

M.A.

M.A. English Language (Modern): Modern English Grammar

COURSE CODE : ENGLMA02

DATE : 30-APR-03

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

Modern English Grammar

Answer three questions.

Candidates must not present substantially the same material in any two answers, whether on this paper or in other parts of the examination.

1. In your opinion, what are the most important grammatical differences between speech and writing?
2. Discuss the semantics and pragmatics of any two of the following: fronting, cleft sentences, pseudo-cleft sentences, existential sentences.
3. Describe in detail any two approaches you are familiar with to constructions involving a verb followed by two NPs where the second NP is predicated of the first one (as in e.g. *I consider her a genius*).
4. Which word class does the word *such* belong to? Give reasoned arguments and use examples to support your conclusion.
5. Huddleston (1984) recognises an 'Extended Verb Phrase'. Evaluate the motivation for, and usefulness of, this notion for a description of English verbal syntax.
6. Why is it necessary to distinguish the two items in the following pairs of terms: interrogative and question; declarative and statement; exclamative and exclamation; imperative and directive?
7. Huddleston and Pullum (2002) speak of "a clear split between locative *there* (*there_{loc}*) and dummy pronoun *there* (*there_{pro}*)". Do you agree that the two can be kept strictly apart?
8. '[No] gradation or continuity *in either form or meaning*, has ever been found *in any language* on this planet.' (Martin Joos; emphasis in original).

Do you agree?

9. 'There is a very remarkable parallelism between the structure of conceptual categories and the structure of linguistic categories. Just as there are central and marginal members of the conceptual category *bird*, so too a linguistic category like *noun* has representative and marginal members.' (John Taylor)

Discuss.

10. Is the distinction between grammatical and lexical cohesion a valid one? Explain your answer.

11. Consider the view that 'mood is the grammaticalisation of modality within the verbal system.' (Huddleston & Pullum)

12. 'There is good reason to doubt whether all cases of clause subordination should be handled in terms of embedding.' (Huddleston)

Discuss

13. Define the term 'aspect' in relation to the system of the English verb phrase as a whole.

14. Write an essay on the terms 'marked' and 'unmarked' in relation to two or more areas of English grammar.

15. Either: (a) How can we distinguish between adverbials and complements?

Or: (b) Write an essay on the semantics of adverbials in English.

16. 'When we speak of count nouns and non-count nouns it is to be understood that we are concerned with nouns as used with a count and non-count interpretation respectively.' (Huddleston and Pullum)

Discuss.