



## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

### **FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS/BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**SECOND SEMESTER 2023/2024**

**[JAN – APRIL, 2024]**

**ENGL 421: ADVANCED SYNTAX**

**STREAM: Y4 S2**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**DAY: TUESDAY, 3:00 - 5:00 P.M.**

**DATE: 16/04/2024**

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Do not write anything on this question paper.**
- 2. Answer question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.**

#### **QUESTION ONE**

- a) Use tree diagrams to illustrate the movements involved in the derivation of the sentences below.
- i. This story was believed by the villagers
  - ii. Whom did you meet at the river?
  - iii. Did they feed the goats? (15marks)
- b) Briefly explain the motivation for the X-bar Theory. (7 marks)
- c) Use bracketing to illustrate the syntactic structure of the sentence below. (8 marks)  
The man at the corner stole her heart.

#### **QUESTION TWO**

Distinguish between major and minor category features of nouns, verbs, adjectives and pronouns.

(20 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE**

Use the minimalism concept of merge to show how the structure below is built.

The students found the hidden treasures (20 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR**

Use the x-bar notation to analyse the syntactic structures below.

- i. Mary's final solution to the problem
- ii. The army totally destroyed the city.
- iii. Smash the ming vase with a hammer
- iv. Quite interesting (20 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE**

Explain how the Binding Theory accounts for the interpretation of anaphors, reciprocals, pronominals and referring expressions. (20 marks)