



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS

FIRST SEMESTER 2023/2024

[APRIL, 2024]

LING 824: LINGUISTIC THEORIES

STREAM: Y1 S2

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY: THURSDAY, 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

DATE: 18/04/2024

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Do not write anything on this question paper.***
- 2. Answer any THREE Questions.***

QUESTION ONE

Minimalist syntax (Radford,2004) starts off with words as bundles of features to which syntactic rules are sensitive. Explain your understanding of this statement with data from English. (25 marks)

QUESTION TWO

Discuss any three sociolinguistic approaches to the study of language learnt in this course. (15 marks)

QUESTION THREE

Psycholinguistic approaches argue for a biological basis of language. To what extent would you agree with this statement? (15 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Non-linear phonology (McCarthy, 1982) was an attempt to address the challenges facing the study of prosodic elements. With data from a language of your choice, illustrate the validity of this assertion. (15 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

American structuralism explored ambivalence to Saussurean structuralism.

Support this view to demonstrate your understanding. (15 marks)

