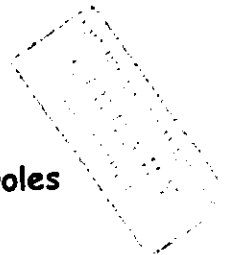Eng 227
Fall 2000
Prof. Lina Choueiri

Final Exam

I. The following sentences consist of a verb, its noun phrase subject, and various objects. Please identify the thematic roles of the underlined noun phrases. *6 pts*

   1. <u>Mary</u> saw a ball in <u>the garden</u>.

   2. <u>The children</u> ran from <u>the playground</u> to <u>the classroom</u>.

   3. With <u>a telescope</u>, <u>the spy</u> observed the politician.

   4. <u>The sun</u> melted <u>the ice</u>.

   5. <u>The hay</u> was loaded on <u>the truck</u> by <u>the farmer</u>.

II. For each group of words given below, state what semantic property distinguishes between the classes of (a) words and (b) words. Indicate also a semantic property shared by the (a) words and the (b) words. *6 pts*

   1. (a) bachelor, man, son, pope, chief
      (b) bull, rooster, stallion, lion

      The (a) words are _____

      The (b) words are _____

      The (a) and (b) words are all _____

   2. (a) walk, run, swim, jump, hop
      (b) fly, skate, ski, ride, cycle

      The (a) words are _____

      The (b) words are _____

      The (a) and (b) words are all _____

Good Luck!

- 1 -

3. (a) pine, cedar, weeping willow
   (b)rose, tulip, daisy

   The (a) words are _____

   The (b) words are _____

   The (a) and (b) words are all _____

4. (a) big-small, married-single, slow-fast
   (b)cold-chilly, glad-happy, dead-deceased

   The (a) words are _____

   The (b) words are _____

   The (a) and (b) words are all _____

III. Please indicate for each set of sentences below whether they form entailements (E), contradictions (C), or neither (N). *5 pts*

1. Sally drives a Honda Accord.
   Sally drives a car.

2. Mary is my aunt.
   Mary is a man.

3. Mary is a widow.
   Mary was married.

4. ABC filters remove bacteria from your drinking water.
   ABC filters remove all bacteria from you drinking water.

5. John remembered to send Mary a birthday gift.
   John sent Mary a birthday gift.

IV. The following sentences may be either lexically or structurally ambiguous, or both. Provide paraphrases showing you comprehend all the meanings and state in each case whether the ambiguity is lexical or structural. *11 pts*

1. The president said he would run on Tuesday.

2. Is he really that kind?
3. He saw that gasoline can explode.
4. Two cars were reported stolen by the security guard.

V. State how each utterance below is meant to be understood in the context provided between parentheses. Explain which Gricean maxim of conversation is violated in each case. *9 pts*

1. (The weather outside is terrible: stormy, rainy, windy, and cold. There are floods everywhere. Mary comes in all wet and ironically says to a room full of people.)
Mary: 'What lovely weather we are having today!'

2. (John is running to make an appointment for which he is late. He stops a woman with a watch on her wrist.)
John: 'Do you have the time?'

3. (The phone rings and Tom picks up. He says to Betty: 'Darling there is a phone call for you.')
Betty: 'I'm in the bath.'

VI. Phrase Structure rules and trees *22 pts*

(1) Draw phrase structure trees for the two sentences below.

(a) The drunken man collapsed on the wheel of his car.
(b) That the president said that the senator lied bothered the angry masses.

(2) Provide a list of the phrase structure rules that you used to build the trees in (1). It can be said that these rules reveal the creativity and infinitude of language. Explain briefly.

VII. Ambiguity and phrase structure trees *14 pts*

Consider the following sentence:

(1) the policeman caught the suspect.

(a) Identify the noun phrases in (1) and give their thematic roles.

Now consider the sentence in (2):

(2) The policeman caught the suspect with our dog.

(b) Explain the ambiguity that arises in (2) from the addition of the prepositional phrase. Is this ambiguity structural or lexical? Justify your answer briefly.
(c) Draw the two trees that correspond to each meaning of the sentence in (2). Specify which tree corresponds to which meaning.
(d) Under which meaning does the phrase *the suspect with our dog* form a constituent? Provide two tests that verify your answer.
(e) For each meaning, give the thematic role associated with the noun phrase *our dog*.

VIII. Rewrite the following sentences in normal English orthography. Identify the mistakes in the transcription and correct them.
6pts

ɪt ɪz pasəbəl tə trenskrajb fənetɪklɪ ɛnɪ ʌtrəns, ɪn ɛnɪ læŋgwɪdʒ, ɪn sɛvrəl dɪfrənt wejz ɔl əv θəm yuzɪŋ ðɪ ælfəbet ənd kənvenʃənz əv ðɪ aj pi ej. ðə sejm θɪŋ ɪz pasəbəl wɪð mowst oðər ɪntərnæʃənəl fənetɪk ælphəbɛts.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

IX. In each case below, underline the words that rhyme and transcribe them. *6 pts*

1. tomb, bomb, comb, some, home _____

2. heart, beard, heard, lord, word _____

3. enough, though, through, plough, tough _____

Good Luck!

X. Aspiration in English *9 pts*

A		B		C		D	
pin	[pʰɪn]	bin	[bɪn]	rapid	[ræpɪd]	lap	[læp]
cap	[kʰæp]	gap	[gæp]	atom	[ætəm]	mat	[mæt]
tot	[tʰɔt]	dot	[dɔt]	Adam	[ædəm]	sick	[sɪk]
				jagged	[dʒægɪd]	lab	[læb]
				rebel	[rɛbəl]	mad	[mæd]
				jacket	[dʒækɪt]	Mig	[mɪg]

(a) How may the initial sounds of the words in column A be characterized? And those of column B?

(b) How do the words in columns C and D differ from those in columns A and B?

(c) Are the sounds [pʰ], [tʰ], [kʰ], [p], [t], [k], all phonemes of English? Give your reasons.

(d) Formulate a simple rule that explains the data in A to D above.

(e) Give the phonetic representation of the following words, as they would be spoken in the dialect of English described in your rule.

    phony   task   party   captain

XI. Provide the phonetic symbol that corresponds to the final sound in each of the following words and list their features (be as specific as necessary to distinguish closely related sounds). *6 pts*

    a. flea
    b. Pastors
    c. Bouquet
    d. Plague

Good Luck!