English 247: Discourse Analysis
Fall 2003-2004
Dr. R. Diab

FINAL EXAM (Time: 2 hours)

I. **DEFINITIONS:** Provide an appropriate <u>definition</u> and an <u>example</u> for each of the following expressions. *(30 points)*

1. Commissive speech act
2. Gricean maxim of quality
3. Contextualization cue
4. Speech exchange system
5. Paralinguistic sign
6. Topic change
7. Expressive speech act
8. Utterance incompleter
9. Analogy paradigm for conceptualizing sex/gender
10. Degree of control in turn-taking

II. **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS:**

1. First, argue why each of the following may be said to fail in some way as a performative (speech act). Secondly, describe the most plausible function of each (as opposed to its form). *(15 points)*

   a. I order you to finish the lecture now. (Student to professor)
   b. I congratulate you for your failure to win the cup.

2. What do the *S, P,* and *N* in Dell Hymes' *SPEAKING* grid stand for? Describe these aspects/criteria and briefly discuss the use of the grid in analyzing discourse. *(15 points)*

III. **LONG-ANSWER QUESTIONS:**

1. What do interactional sociolinguistics and ethnography of communication have in common as approaches to discourse analysis? How do they differ? Provide examples to support your claims. (Note: Provide a compare-and-contrast analysis, NOT a simple description of each). *(20 points)*

2. Choose <u>ONE</u> of the two following questions *(20 points)*:

a. **What is *women's language*?** What did feminist linguist Robin Lakoff suggest concerning the development and shaping of women's language? (i.e. how a girl learns how to "speak like a girl"). What is Deborah Tannen's view concerning this issue? What is your own opinion?

b. **In your opinion, are there any *universal* systematic differences between men's and women's speech?** Would cultural background interact with gender in shaping how men and women differ in speech? How? (In answering this question, it might help to think about a hypothetical gender and discourse study set in the Lebanese context as opposed to a typical Lakoff study of "white, relatively privileged Anglophone US suburbanites").

GOOD LUCK!!! ☺