

EXAMINATION

Course code: SFE10410	Course: English: Grammar and Phonetics
Date: 24 May 2018	Duration: 9.00 – 15.00 (six hours)
Permitted exam aids: None	Lecturers: Lasse Ellefsen Nazareth Amlesom Kifle
The examination: The exam set consists of 6 pages including this page. Please check that the exam set is complete before you start working. The examination consists of three parts : Phonetics (35 %), grammar (55 %), and proficiency (10 %). All parts must be answered. Please begin each part of the exam on a new page. Students must pass all three parts of the exam to receive a passing grade.	
Date of announcement of the examination results: 18 June 2018 The examination results are available on the Studentweb www.hiof.no/studentweb	

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PHONETICS (35 %)

Answer the following questions. Where appropriate, discuss and illustrate using relevant examples. Please begin each part of the exam (phonetics, grammar, proficiency) on a new page.

1) In terms of different types of speech sounds; what is a fricative? Which fricatives do we find in English?

2) What is African American (Vernacular) English?

3) Choose **two** of the following terms and explain *briefly* to what they refer.

- a) Elision
- b) Weak vowel
- c) Aitkin's Law
- d) Wells' Standard Lexical Set

4) Answer **one** of the following questions:

- a) What has been the discussion around the pronunciation of the newer English word *Brexit*?
- b) What is double/variable stress?
- c) What is the difference between complete and partial assimilation?

GRAMMAR (55 %)

Please write your grammar answers on a separate sheet.

The grammar exam has two parts, **Part A and Part B**. All questions must be answered.

Grammar, Part A

Comment on the **differences in form and meaning** of the following pairs of sentences.

- a. She drives to work every day.
She is driving to work today.
- b. I was cooking dinner when the guests arrived.
I cooked dinner when the guests arrived.
- c. John has crashed his car again.
John crashed his car last week.
- d. They cannot do it.
It cannot be done.
- e. The children must sleep now.
The children must be sleeping now.

Grammar, Part B

Part B consists of two questions. Both questions must be answered.

1. Read the following text carefully, and answer the questions that follow. (Note that relevant sentences have been numbered for reference.)

- (1) Mma Ramotswe had a detective agency in Africa, at the foot of Kgale Hill. (2) It was called the No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency. These were its assets: a tiny white van, two desks, two chairs, a telephone, and an old typewriter. (3) Then there was a teapot in which Mma Ramotswe brewed redbush tea. (4) What else does a detective agency

really need? (5) But there was also the view, which again could appear on no inventory. (6) How could any such list describe what one saw when one looked out from Mma Ramotswe's door? (7) It does not take long from her house to the agency. (8) It was with the proceeds of the sale of her father's cattle that Mma Ramotswe set up the detective agency. He had no other children. (9) 'I want you to have your own business. (10) Take this money.' (11) he said to her on his death bed. (12) It was difficult to talk through her tears, but she managed to say: (13) 'I'm going to set up a detective agency down in Gaborone.' (14) It will be the best one in Botswana. The No. 1 Agency.

(Except adapted from McCall Smith's Novel: "The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency", p.1-4)

Questions:

- 1a. What are the **uses of *it*** and ***there*** in sentences (2), (3), (5), (7) (12) and (14)? Comment on the **syntactic function** that *it* and *there* fill in each sentence.
- 1b. What **type of clauses** are sentence (1), (4) and (10)? Discuss briefly English **word order pattern** based on these sentences.
- 1c. Discuss the placement of the direct speech in relation to the main clause in sentence (9) 'I want you to have your own business. Take this money.' he said to her on his death bed.
- 1d. Sentence (9): What **kind of clause** is *to have your own business*?
- 1e. Identify the **dependent clause** in sentence 3. What **type of dependent** clause is it? What is its **syntactic function** in relation to the matrix clause?
- 1f. Compare the **form** and the **meaning** of the **future time expressions** in sentences (13) and (14).

2. Read the following text carefully, and answer the questions that follow. (Note that sentences have been numbered for reference.)

(1) I soon learned to know this flower better. (2) On the little prince's planet the flowers had always been very simple. (3) They had only one ring of petals; they took up no room at all; they were a trouble to nobody. (4) One morning they would appear in the grass, and by night they would have faded peacefully away. (5) But one day, from a

seed blown from no one knew where, a new flower had come up; and the little prince had watched very closely over this small sprout which was not like any other small sprouts on his planet. (6) It might, you see, have been a new kind of baobab. (7) The shrub soon stopped growing and began to get ready to produce a flower. (8) The little prince, who was present at the first appearance of a huge bud, felt at once that some sort of miraculous apparition must emerge from it. (9) But the flower was not satisfied to complete the preparations for her beauty in the shelter of her green chamber. (10) She chose her colours and the rearrangement of her petals with the greatest care. (11) Her petals were adjusted one by one. (12) She did not wish to go out into the world all crumpled, like the field poppies. (13) It was only in the full radiance of her beauty that she wished to appear. (14) Oh, yes! She was a coquettish creature! And her mysterious adornment lasted for days and days.

(From the "The Little Prince" Ch. 8, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)

Questions:

- 2a. Find three instances of modality in the text, and comment on the modal meanings they express.
- 2b. Comment on the **tense**, **aspect**, and **voice** of the verb phrase *were adjusted* in sentence 11.
- 2c. Comment on the placement of *soon*, *always*, *the little prince's planet*, *one morning* and *in the grass* in sentences 1, 2 and 4.
- 2d. Sentence 14: Identify the **clause elements** in *She was a coquettish creature!*
- 2e. Sentence 13: What is the use of *it*? **Rewrite** the clause so that it reflects the default, SVO, word order pattern.
- 2f. Sentence 8: What type of clause is *that some sort of miraculous apparition must emerge from it*? What **syntactic function** does it play in the matrix clause?
- 2g. Give a brief explanation of information principles based on the use of *they* in sentence 3, *it* in sentence (6) and *she* in (10).

WRITTEN PROFICIENCY (10 %)

This proficiency exam contains **two questions and each question must be answered.**

Question 1: Briefly **describe genre** based on *topic, target group, channel, purpose* and *wording*.

Question 2: Based on the thesis statement given in the introductory paragraph below (see sentences in bold), **write a 150-180-words body paragraph for one of the four supporting topics:** *virtual life* (body paragraph 1), *cyberbullying* (body paragraph 2), *spread of fake news* (body paragraph 3) or *invasion of privacy* (body paragraph 4).

Your paragraph must contain a topic sentence and you must underline it. Give evidences and examples to substantiate your ideas. Make sure that your paragraph is coherent and employ linking/transition words to connect your ideas.

Essay

Introduction

The use of social media has grown substantially in the last few years. For instance, Facebook had over 500 million monthly active users worldwide by the end of 2010. This number increased exponentially to 2,19 billion monthly active users by the first quarter of 2018. The way social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are received by us reflects their potential of shaping our social, cultural, economic and political lives. Social media has enabled us, for instance, to connect with friends and family, to raise our awareness for social and political issue and to advertise our products and services. However, on the other hand, **social media has also exposed our society to a number of disadvantages such as addiction of virtual life, cyberbullying, spread of fake news and invasion of privacy.** There is a serious concern that our society lacks basic information literacy skills to be able to engage in social media. **This essay argues that we must learn to use social media effectively in order to protect ourselves from these drawbacks and safeguard our wellbeing and that of our society.**

N.B. You must choose only one of the four topics to write a paragraph for.