HCMC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY & EDUCATION **FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES** **LANGUAGE SKILLS SECTION** 🙠✦🙢		**FINAL TEST OF SEMANTICS** Semester II – Academic year: 2022-2023 **Course code:** SEMA230236 **Duration**: 75 minutes **Test date**: 05 June 2024 The test paper consists of 3 pages.
Invigilator 1	**Invigilator 2**	**Student's name:** ………………………….. **Student ID:**……………………………........... **Ordinal number:** …………… **Room**: …………
Marker 1		**Marker 2**

ANSWER KEY

Part 1: Answers may vary, but should contain the following main ideas. (2.0 marks**)**

a. There is no distinction in spelling.

b. Homonymous words may have distinct origins.

c. Two or more words are homonyms if they either sound the same (homophones), have the same spelling (homographs), or both, but do not have related meanings.

d. A word is polysemous if it can be used to express different meanings. The difference between the meanings can be subtle.

    EXAMPLES may vary.

Part 2: Determine whether the following statements are CORRECT (C) or INCORRECT (I). (1.0 mark)

Statements	C/I
1. *John stole a car* entails *John took a car.*	C/I
2. *If it breaks, it breaks* is an example of syntheticity.	C/I
3. *This contradictory sentence is not contradictory* is an anomalous sentence.	C/I
4. Denotation refers to the pure definition of a term, which one can find in the dictionary.	C/I

5. The pronoun *it* in "Every man who owns a donkey beats it" is a referring expression.	C/**I**

Part 3: INTERPRET the meaning of the following sentences and identify the kind of FIGURES OF SPEECH used. (2.5 marks)

1. The final lecture before vacation lasted an eternity.

HYPERBOLE. "lasted an eternity" is an exaggeration, which means "lasted a very long time".
This sentence means *The final lecture before vacation seemed to last a very long time.*

2. The president's Cabinet contained the best brains of the country.

SYNECDOCHE–In this sentence, *brain [+part]* stands for /is used for *intellectually brilliant person [+whole].*

3. Be careful what you say; even the walls have ears!

PERSONIFICATION. In this sentence, "*the walls*" [-human] is endowed with a human attribute [+having ears]. This sentence suggests that we should be careful about what we say for there might be hidden listeners even in private or seemingly secure places.

4. Hope is a beacon in the stormy sea of despair.

METAPHOR(S). In this sentence, "hope" is implicitly compared to the guiding light of a beacon in "the stormy sea of despair", which implies desperate or disappointing situations. The whole sentence means: Hope can guide us through critically disappointing situations.

5. The elevator dinged and the door opened.

ONOMATOPOEIA /ECHOISM /SOUND IMITATION. "DING" is a verb which imitates the sound of the elevator.

Part 4: Explain the AMBIGUITY in each of the following sentences by providing TWO SENTENCES that paraphrase its two meanings. (2.5 marks)

1. Alan is a bachelor.

   Lexical ambiguity.

   a. Alan is a man who has never been married.

   b. Alan is a man who has a Bachelor's degree (a first university degree).

2. We need more skillful workers.

   Structural ambiguity.

a. We need a greater number of skillful workers.

b. We need workers who are more skillful.

3. Students like science teachers because they are realistic and practical.

Structural ambiguity.

a. Students like science teachers because these teachers are realistic and practical.

b. Students like science teachers because these students are realistic and practical.

4. Tall boys and girls are needed to participate in the activities.

Structural ambiguity.

a. Tall boys and tall girls are needed to participate in the activities.

b. Only boys who are tall and girls of any height are needed to participate in the activities.

5. After the party, Tom found a pair of glasses on the table.

Lexical ambiguity.

a. After the party, Tom found a pair of drinking containers made from glass on the table.

b. After the party, Tom found a pair of lenses used for assisting eyesight or protecting eyes on the table.

Part 5: Identify the LEXICAL SENSE RELATION between each pair of capitalized words in the following sentences. (2.0 marks)

1. POLYSEMY
2. HOMOGRAPHY
3. HYPONYMY
4. HOMOPHONY
5. BINARY ANTONYMY
6. SYNONYMY
7. RELATIONAL ANTONYMY
8. HOMONYMY
9. GRADABLE ANTONYMY
10. POLYSEMY

-THE END-

APPROVED BY

ANSWER SHEET

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