START OF QUIZ
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Academic honesty is essential to the continued functioning of the University of British Columbia as an institution of higher learning and research. All UBC students are expected to behave as honest and responsible members of an academic community. Failure to follow the appropriate policies, principles, rules, and guidelines of the University with respect to academic honesty may result in disciplinary action.

I agree that all answers provided are in my own words, and that I will not discuss the contents of this quiz with any of my fellow students until after the exam period has completed for everyone. Furthermore, any response that used generative AI tools has been rephrased into my own interpretation, and has been appropriately cited.

Signature: _____

Question 1

Topic: Lecture 4
Source: Lecture 4

Briefly describe "fence-posting", and why it's useful for parsing evaluation. (1)

Question 2

Topic: Lecture 3
Source: Lecture 3

Why is recursion essential in CFGs for modeling natural language? Give a simple example involving a noun phrase or verb phrase. (1)

Question 3

Topic: Lecture 2
Source: Lecture 2

What properties of English syntax make regular expressions suitable for chunking? Do you think that this functionality would extend to many other languages? Briefly explain. (1)

Question 4

Topic: Lecture 1
Source: Lecture 5

Up to this point, we've largely ignored function words, but they are extremely influential in parsing. Give 2 reasons why. (1)

Question 5

Topic: Lecture 4
Source: Lecture 4

Why is a feature grammar still considered context-free (or nearly so) in many implementations, despite being more expressive than a plain CFG? (1)

Question 6

Topic: Lecture 1
Source: Lecture 5

You are building a parser for a language with much freer word order than English. What assumptions do you need to weaken before building the parser. Do you think it will have much of an impact on the quality of the parser? (2)

Question 7

Post-positive adjectives are adjectives that occur after the noun phrase they are modifying (such as "attorney/surgeon general", "somewhere nice", "nothing important"). Given that they tend to occur in set phrases, do you think it would be better to write a general class of PostAdj, and create PostAdj phrases in a CFG, or just list them as valid NPs (ie, NP = surgeon general)? Discuss the pros and cons of either decision. (2)

Question 8

Imagine that you're working with a copy-editor to tighten the prose of prospective novels. How might you use parsers to identify places where you can "trim the fat" without being too aggressive? (2)

Question 9

Topic: Long
Source: Lecture 3

In class, we briefly mentioned OSASCOMP (the order of adjectives in English - Opinion, Size, Age, Shape, Colour, Origin, Material, Purpose). For example, we can have the "big red Italian car", but not the "red Italian big car". Please compose a CFG that can handle this ordering (you can assume that our grammar already knows what adjectives and noun phrases are). (3)

END OF QUIZ