



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14-16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND LAGOS
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
MAY/JUNE 2012 EXAMINATION**

ENG421: New Trends in Syntax
TIME ALLOWED: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTION(S): ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

1. With two distinct examples, define and explain the economy of derivation in the Minimalist Program.
2. Discuss the Spell-out as an interface as well as its operational procedure within the syntactic framework of the Minimalist Programme.
3. Would you consider Shortest Move Principle an economy principle? Use the following sentences to explain your position:
 - (a) How do you describe how he did it?
 - (b) When did he say what you told him?
 - (c) What he said was what I heard.
4. Discuss four of the phrasal categories in the Minimalist Program. Use of examples will give additional marks.
5. (a) Draw a tree diagram to show the transformational process undertaken in the derivation of this sentence: *The ruler was stolen by Bidemi.*
(b) State clearly each stage of the transformational process for the sentence.