



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA,
14/16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MARCH/APRIL 2014 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: ENG432
COURSE TITLE: Pragmatics
TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any **3** Questions

1. Briefly outline the historical development of pragmatics as a discipline.
Give detailed description of the contributions of Carnap and Morris to the growth of pragmatics.
(23marks)
2. Give detailed description of what presupposition entails within the pragmatic practice.
(23marks)
3. State and explain Grice's Conversational Maxims.
(23marks)
4. Discuss the Speech Act Theory as propounded by Austin.
(23marks)
5. Look carefully at this conversation and give a pragmatic analysis:

Colleague A: We have just been paid our salary.

Colleague B: That means you can buy it now.

Colleague A: Yes. I am going to see him immediately.

Colleague B: (nodding approval) That is very good.

- (a) Give a detailed description of the most appropriate pragmatic element that is operational here.
(10marks)
- (b) Outline the process of the operation of the pragmatic concept of choice in the exchange above.
(13marks)

