



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14/16 AHMADU BELLO WAY VICTORIA ISLAND
LAGOS

OCTOBER 2013 EXAMINATIONS
School of Arts and Social Sciences

Course Code: ENG432

Course Title: Pragmatics

Credit Unit: (3C)

TIME: 2HRS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY THREE 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.
2. Give detailed description of what presupposition entails within the pragmatic practice.
3. Stage and explain Grice's Conversational Maxims.
4. Discuss the Speech Act Theory as propounded by Austin.
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.
- (b) Outline the process of the operation of the pragmatic concept of choice in the exchange above.

