

i Information

University of Oslo

Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages

Spring 2020

ENG2100 – Advanced English Grammar: Syntax and argumentation

4-hour written exam without supervision, May 15 at 2:30 PM.

Practical information about the examination

The exam paper consists of THREE parts, Parts I, II and III. All three parts must be answered, and a pass mark is required on all three. Part I counts 50% towards your mark, Part II 20% and Part III 30%. In Parts I and III, choose ONE of the two alternatives.

Part II requires a syntactic tree. This tree can be drawn by hand, scanned or photographed, and included as a picture in your file.

After starting the exam, you will see your remaining time in the upper left corner.

You can change language in Inspera by clicking on the icon in the upper right corner.

If you want to withdraw from the examination, please click on the icon in the upper right corner, and then choose “withdraw”.

Requirements

Your paper must contain the following information:

- candidate number, NOT your name, your candidate number is available in Studentweb;
- course code and course name.

Please use Times New Roman, 12 pt., 1.5 line spacing in the body of the text. The pages must be numbered. Submit your file in doc(x) or PDF format.

NB: you should calculate at least 2-3 minutes to convert your answers from a Word document to a PDF-document, and to upload the PDF-document to Inspera. Please follow the link for more information regarding converting to pdf: <https://www.uio.no/tjenester/it/lagring-samarbeid/apne-dokformater/pdf/>

The uploaded document will be automatically submitted when the time is up.

Sources and referencing

It is important that you familiarize yourself with the rules for sources and referencing: <https://www.hf.uio.no/english/studies/sources-referencing/index.html>

It is not mandatory to include a bibliography (reference list) in a short take-home examination (2-6 hours). Using other people's material without declaring it properly may be considered as cheating or attempted cheating. The consequences of cheating or attempted cheating may be severe for you as a student, please follow the link for more information: <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/sources-citations/>

Contact information

If you are experiencing technical difficulties during your examination or have further questions, please call 22 84 10 70 or 22 85 91 73.

1 Questions

[\(Attachment as pdf\)](#)

Part I (50%)

Choose EITHER question A OR question B.

- A. Give an account of noun phrases in English including their internal structure (types of head and dependents) and their typical functions in a clause. Illustrate your account with examples from the attached text. In case you need to illustrate noun phrase types that cannot be found in the text, you may add examples from elsewhere.
- B. Give an account of the passive voice. You should consider the passive as a feature of the verb phrase and as an information-packaging device. Illustrate your account with examples from the attached text. In case you need to illustrate passive constructions that cannot be found in the text, you may add examples from elsewhere.

Part II (20%)

- C. Draw an X-bar diagram of the following sentence. Write a brief comment on your analysis in which you explain the choices you made.

He spends much of his time in the hills where he grew up.

Part III (30%)


Choose EITHER question D OR question E.

- D. What is a 'non-basic' sentence? Find five different examples of non-basic sentences in the attached text. Explain why they are non-basic and state what type of structure they represent.
- E. The textbooks by Aarts and Huddleston & Pullum classify the present perfect differently – as tense or aspect. What arguments can you find for classifying it as tense? What arguments would be in favour of classifying it as aspect?



Upload your file here. Only ONE file permitted.

Følgende filtyper er tillatt: **.pdf,.doc,.docx** Maksimal filstørrelse er **1 GB**.

 Velg fil for opplasting

Maks poeng: 0

Question 1
Attached



ENG2100 Exam, Spring 2020 – Text for analysis

1 **The alphabets at risk of extinction**

2 It isn't just languages that are endangered: dozens of alphabets around the world are at risk. And
3 they could have even more to tell us.

4 On his first two days of school, in a village above the Bangladeshi port of Chittagong, Maung Nyeu
5 was hit with a cane. This was not because he was naughty. It was simply that Nyeu could not
6 understand what the teacher was saying, or what was written in his textbooks. Although 98% of
7 Bangladeshis speak Bengali as a first language, Nyeu grew up with Marma, one of several minority
8 tongues in the region. Written, it is all curls, like messy locks of hair.

9 Eventually Nyeu managed to escape this cycle of bewilderment and beatings. After learning Bengali
10 at home, he returned to school and went to university. Now he is pursuing a doctorate at Harvard.
11 Yet Nyeu never forgot his early schooldays. He spends much of his time in the hills where he grew up,
12 where he founded *Our Golden Hour* – a nonprofit fighting to keep Marma and a flurry of other scripts
13 alive.

14 There are between 6,000 to 7,000 languages in the world. Yet 96% are spoken by just 3% of the
15 global population. And 85% are endangered, like Marma. Along with the spoken words, something
16 else is also at risk: each language's individual script. When we talk about "endangered languages",
17 most of us think of the spoken versions first. But our alphabets can tell us huge amounts about the
18 cultures they came from. Just as impressive is the length people will go to save their scripts – or
19 invent whole new alphabets and spread them to the world.

20 In August 2018, Unesco proudly announced that 2019 would be its year of indigenous languages.
21 Unveiling a website devoted to the project, the organisation warned of the need to "preserve,
22 revitalise and promote indigenous languages around the world". But while many have focused on the
23 spoken word, how different cultures write is often ignored. This might have something to do with the
24 artificiality of alphabets. Language is innate to all humans, but scripts have to be invented and
25 actively learned. This has happened rarely. Even by the middle of the 19th Century, only 10% of
26 adults knew how to write, and there are only about 140 scripts in use today.

27 (From <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200121-the-alphabets-at-risk-of-extinction>)