



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, JABI, ABUJA
91 CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI -
ABUJA
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
2025_2 EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: ENG 421

COURSE TITLE: New Trends in Syntax

COURSE UNIT: 3 Credit Units

Time allowed: Three (3) Hours

Instruction: Answer any four questions.

1. Explain the tenets of Chomsky's Universal Grammar using the UG framework as a guide. (17.5 marks)
2. Juxtapose the Minimalist Program and the Transformational Generative Grammar; (17.5 marks)
3. (a) Define the Spell-out concept in the Minimalist framework, and (7.5 marks)
(b) Discuss how it affects the PF and the LF processes. (10 marks)
4. Use the Shortest Move Principle to explain the movement operations in the following expressions. (17.5 marks)
 - (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.
5. Identify the economy principle of least effort and how it works and how to apply it in a relevant syntactic analysis. (17.5 marks)