ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD
(Department of English Language & Applied Linguistics)

WARNING
1. **PLAGIARISM OR HIRING OF GHOST WRITER(S) FOR SOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT(S) WILL DEBAR THE STUDENT FROM AWARD OF DEGREE/CERTIFICATE, IF FOUND AT ANY STAGE.**
2. **SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS BORROWED OR STOLEN FROM OTHER(S) AS ONE'S OWN WILL BE PENALIZED AS DEFINED IN "AIOU PLAGIARISM POLICY".**

Course: Modern Grammatical Theory (5668)

Level: MA TEFL   Semester: Autumn, 2012
Total Marks: 100   Pass Marks: 40

ASSIGNMENT No. 1
(Units 1-9)

Q.1 After reading your textbook, you must have understood that all the languages have grammatical specifications and rules. Explain the differences and similarities between *descriptive* and *pedagogical grammar* with the relevant examples.   (10)

Q.2 You must have read about the aspects/dimensions of particular grammar, i.e. morphology, phonology, semantics and syntax in your textbook. Do these aspects relate to different languages? Discuss with examples.   (15)

Q.3 In language learning process, sentence structure/sentences formation plays an important role, which is one of the prominent factors of Chomsky's theory. Define Chomsky's theories of *syntax* with the special reference to *transformational generative grammar.*   (10)

Q.4 Chomsky affirms that sentences are formed at some *deep level* in the mind or brain. How would you explain Chomsky's concept of *deep and surface structures* with reference to *kernel* and *surface sentences?*   (15)

Q.5 After reading *transformational generative grammar* given in your textbook, how would you define *syntactic categories* and *phrase structure rules*? Explain with suitable examples using symbols.   (15)

Q.6 You have read *educational implications of Universal Grammar* in you textbook. In that context, discuss *direct access* and *indirect access models* of language learning and their *educational implications* with proper examples.   (10)

Q.7 *Competence* and *performance* are central to Chomsky's *Transformational Generative Grammar.* How would you explain them in the light of your educational and teaching experiences?   (10)

Q.8 What is *LAD (Language Acquisition Device)*? Explain *LAD* with the help of *properties of language faculty* referring to Chomsky's interpretation in his reading text "*The Problem of Knowledge".*   (15)

ASSIGNMENT No. 2
(Units 1-9)

Total Marks: 100   **Pass Marks: 40**

The 2nd assignment is based on a research-oriented activity. You are required to study the relevant area/ conduct research and prepare a brief report on your findings in the area given. You will then have to submit one copy of the report to the tutor within the scheduled period and at the same time present the report/ project in one of the tutorials (the schedule/plan of the tutorials for the presentations will be intimated by the tutor concerned or the Regional Director). The compulsory presentation carries 100 marks; 40 marks for the written report and 60 for the presentation.

A few guidelines for the written report and the presentation:

a)   The written report should have an introduction, body and conclusion. It should be written in clear, concise and correct English.
b)   It should be 5-8 double spaced typed/handwritten pages.
c)   The presentation is to be assessed and evaluated mainly in:
  i.   Contents of the assignment/report
  ii.   Communication skills
  iii.   Language accuracy
  iv.   Language fluency
  v.   Presentation style

You may use transparencies, charts or any other relevant material for impressive presentation with the permission of your tutor.

RESEARCH – ORIENTED ACTIVITY

According to Chomsky's theory, "languages are structure dependent and follow particular rules within the Languages". Discuss briefly. As a case study, observe the language use (L1/L2 & Foreign Language) in an academic situation and elaborate the above concept. Report your findings in the assignment and present verbally in the tutorial.

Or

As a language teacher how would you describe the "Direct Access Model" and "Indirect Access Model" of the Universal Grammar? Elaborate the ideas adequately to illustrate that you can judge the interference of the languages while in use. Choose a group of students from your own teaching situation and apply these two concepts on their language use/process. Analyses the data and discuss in detail how both the models relate and operate.

Or

Discuss the difference between "PS-rules" and "T-rules" in details as discussed in your course book (5668). Practices these syntactic structures in your class room to find out their effectiveness and implications in language learning/teaching. Record/transcribe your observation and give a briefing on your findings in the tutorial.