



**UNIVERSITETET
I OSLO**

Institutt for litteratur, områdestudier og europeiske språk

**WRITTEN EXAMINATION
SPRING 2015
3 pages**

**ENG4152 – Varieties of English Texts
4 hours**

Tuesday 19 May 2015

**You are allowed to use an English–English dictionary.
The questions must be answered in English.
The answers must be written on copy-sheets.**

Answer Part I, ONE question from Part II and ONE question from Part III. Pass marks are required on all parts.

**Part I
(20 %)**

1. Define and compare any TWO of the following pairs of topics. Examples from English should be provided wherever relevant.
 - a. question vs. request
 - b. reference words vs. lexical repetition
 - c. relational vs. material processes
 - d. the maxim of quantity and the maxim of manner (clarity)

**Part II
(40 %)**

EITHER

2. Analyse Text 1 in terms of its narrational modes (pure narrative, direct speech/thought, indirect speech/thought, free direct/indirect discourse, narrative report of discourse act). Discuss any problems of analysis and justify your solutions to the problems. (*Text provided, no. 1*)

OR

3. Describe some of the features that characterize conversational speech. Use Text 2 for exemplification. (*Text provided, no. 2*)

Part III
(40 %)

EITHER

4. According to Salkie, “Texts are sometimes coherent because the information in them is structured in a particular way. In analysing this kind of structure we cannot look at texts in isolation, but only in conjunction with the knowledge and expectations of language users.” Discuss this view of coherence in the light of insights from your course reading. Feel free to use examples from the attached texts for exemplification.

OR

5. Cook observes that the traditional division of language into the spoken and the written is clearly and sensibly based on a difference in production and reception. And yet, as far as discourse structure is concerned, a more fundamental distinction seems to be between formal, planned discourse and less formal, unplanned discourse. Discuss this observation drawing on relevant studies from your course reading. Illustrate your discussion with English examples.

Text provided, no. 1

- 1 ‘I’m so sorry he hasn’t got back to you,’ Robin told the caller, seven miles away in the office.
2 ‘Mr Strike’s incredibly busy at the moment. Let me take your name and number, and I’ll make
3 sure he phones you this afternoon.’
4 ‘Oh, there’s no need for that,’ said the woman. She had a pleasant, cultivated voice with
5 a faint suspicion of hoarseness, as though her laugh would be sexy and bold. ‘I don’t really need
6 to speak to him. Could you just give him a message for me? I wanted to warn him, that’s all.
7 God, this is... it’s a bit embarrassing; it isn’t the way I’d have chosen... Well, anyway. Could
8 you please just tell him that Charlotte Campbell called, and that I’m engaged to Jago Ross? I
9 didn’t want him to hear about it from anyone else, or read about it. Jago’s parents have gone and
10 put it in the bloody *Times*. Mortifying.’
11 ‘Oh. All right,’ said Robin, her mind suddenly paralysed like her pen.
12 ‘Thanks very much – Robin, did you say? Thanks. ‘Bye.’
13 Charlotte rang off first. Robin replaced the receiver in slow motion, feeling acutely
14 anxious. She did not want to deliver this news. She might be only the messenger, but she would
15 feel as though she were delivering an assault on Strike’s determination to keep his private life
16 under wraps, on his firm avoidance of the subject of the boxes of possessions, the camp bed, the
17 detritus of his evening meals in the bins every morning.
18 Robin pondered her options. She could forget to relay the message, and simply tell him
19 to call Charlotte and get her to do her own dirty work (as Robin put it to herself). What, though,
20 if Strike refused to call, and somebody else told him about the engagement?

(From Robert Galbraith, *The Cuckoo’s Calling*)

Text provided, no. 2

(Transcript from the *British National Corpus*. The symbol <-|> indicates overlapping speech.)

- 1 Hayley: Yeah you can make me some, I don't know what I, I don't want anything but I <-|>
2 dunno <-|>
3 Gordon: <-|> <unclear> <-|> all I've eaten in the last week and one day is <pause> salads
4 Hayley: Yeah <-|> well that's <-|>
5 Lyn: <-|> Oh you're on a <-|> diet as well are you?
6 Hayley: Oh I, well the thing is he <pause> I can't cook chips Lyn, if I'm doing it, it's not fair is
7 it?
8 Lyn: No.
9 Hayley: I mean he got to <-|> anyway.
10 Lyn: <-|> So if you <-|> diet he's gotta diet?
11 Hayley: Me and him'd sit and eat <-|> from half past six <-|>
12 Lyn: <-|> I'm very lucky <-|>
13 Hayley: till we went to bed.
14 Lyn: I'm very lucky er I don't cook. Russell does all the cooking, I never <-|> cook.
15 Hayley: <-|> I enjoy it though Lyn, I do.
16 Lyn: Well I don't like cooking, I do the washing up mind. I mean I go out <-|>
17 Hayley: <-|> I enjoy cooking. I'd cook anything.
18 Lyn: and clean up the mess after him. He just cooks <-|> and <-|>
19 Hayley: <-|> Oh <-|> I do that as well. <pause> Oh I enjoy it though, I've gotta <-|> be
20 honest.
21 Gordon: <-|> <unclear> <-|> gone to bed right, say you've gone half past ten, eleven <-|>
22 gone to sleep <-|>
23 Gordon: woke up about two starving and gone out and cooked <-|> <unclear> <-|>
24 Hayley: <-|> We have, <unclear> <-|> that's how bad, that's why I have to t-- er have those
25 tablets.
26 Lyn: What do you do, go downstairs and cook <-|> <unclear> <-|>
27 Hayley: <-|> Oh I <unclear> <-|> bed and go to sleep. We wake up and <-|>
28 Gordon: <-|> Well we go to bed about <pause> half past ten, eleven, go to sleep <-|> we wake
29 up <unclear>
30 Hayley: We talk about food.
31 Gordon: she'll go down <-|> <unclear> <-|>
32 Lyn: <-|> And then you go down and make food do you?
33 Hayley: I go down, yeah.
34 Lyn: No matter what time it is? <laugh> <-|>
35 Hayley: <-|> No and eat chips. <pause>
36 Gordon: <unclear> two plates <-|> packed with stuff right <-|>
37 Lyn: <-|> I know we, I've done that.

The marks will be published in Studentweb within 3 weeks. You will receive an e-mail when the result is ready.

For an explanation of the mark obtained, please contact the teacher responsible for the course within one week after the exam results have been published. Remember to include your name and candidate number. The examiner will then decide whether to give a written or oral explanation.