Eksamensoppgave i

ENG2155: Teoretiske tilnæringer til engelsk språk

VÅR 2010

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Studiepoeng: 7,5
Tillatte hjelpemidler: En av følgende ordbøkene:
Collins Cobuild English (Advanced Learner’s) Dictionary
The Concise Oxford Dictionary
Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English
Longman Dictionary of American English
Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary
Random-House Webster's College Dictionary
Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary

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EXAM for
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Contact person during the exam: Christine Maassen-Wilder
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Points: 7.5
Approved aids: One of the following dictionaries:
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Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary
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Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary

Language: English
Pages: 5 (including front pages)

Examination results: 28th June 2010
Read the following text before answering the questions. Answer all four questions. Each question counts for 25% of the final grade.

1. **Queen of the civil rights movement**

Dorothy Height was a first-rank female activist who fought for the rights of black Americans for six decades. She died in Washington last week.

If Rosa Parks was the mother of the civil rights movement, Dorothy Height was its queen. In 1955, Parks's refusal to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, caught the imagination of the world. It was an unforgettable gesture of defiance against the evil of racism. The name of Parks achieved worldwide recognition. By contrast, Height was a name that few people had heard of. Yet for 60 years she led the fight for the equality of black Americans and for the equality of women. She knew every president from Franklin Roosevelt to Barack Obama. She was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, which is the country's highest civilian award, by George W. Bush in 2004.

Height grew up in a Pennsylvanian neighbourhood where the schools had been integrated. The race issue, however, was never far away. In 1929 she won a student contest for public speaking, along with a college scholarship. However, she was turned away from the final stage of the speaking competition because she was coloured. She was also denied entry to a prestigious New York college. The two places which it allotted each year to African Americans had already been filled.

After the first protests in Harlem which she participated in during the 1930s, Height became the pre-eminent female figure in the struggle for racial equality. She was chosen to be the president of the National Council of Negro Women in 1957. This post, she held until 1997, when she was 85 years old. Throughout her long career, she was considered to be an elegant and dignified leader. It was once remarked that she never did raise her voice. A queen rarely needs to shout.

Later, she became a counsellor to Martin Luther King. She stood by him on the platform when he delivered his “I have a dream” speech in 1963. Yet she was scarcely noticed. No speech was made by a woman on that historic day. The only female voice that was heard belonged to a gospel singer who performed an old negro spiritual.

In January 2009, she occupied a place of honour at the inauguration of America's first black president. Her views, however, had not changed. She did not believe that the fight against institutional racism had been won. She considered today's black Americans to lack the “righteous indignation” of their forebears. She unceasingly argued that the struggle for jobs and freedom must be sustained. “We are not going to get there by talking alone.”

(Adapted from *The Independent*, 26.4.2010)
**Question 1**

Analyse the following words taken from the text, identify its word formation type and give a complete word structure analysis.

(1) fought (line 2)  
(2) civil rights movement (line 4)  
(3) refusal (line 5)  
(4) segregated (line 5)  
(5) unforgettable (line 6)  
(6) equality (line 9)  
(7) highest (line 11)  
(8) gospel singer (line 27)

**Question 2**

Among the various grammatical functions for NPs (positions in a structure which an NP can appear in), the function ‘subject of a clause’ has a special status compared with non-subject functions (which include ‘object of a verb’ and ‘object of a preposition’). Discuss the special status of ‘subject of a clause’ with respect to at least three of the five grammatical phenomena listed below. Use examples from the text or make up your own examples to illustrate your answer.

i. Agreement  
ii. Case  
iii. Expletive NPs (*it, there*)  
iv. Question formation  
v. Relative clause formation
Question 3

i. Explain briefly the role of Case in the formation of passive sentences from active ones.

ii. Provide a corresponding active sentence for sentences (1) and (2).

iii. Analyse the following sentences by giving a full tree representation, marking theta-role assignment, Case assignment and NP movement.

(1) She was scarcely noticed. (Cf. lines 25-26)
(2) She was considered to be an elegant and dignified leader. (Cf. lines 21-22)

Question 4

There are many types of subordinate/embedded clauses including adjunct/adverbial clauses, Verb-complement clauses, Noun-complement clauses, subject clauses, that-relative clauses, wh-relative clauses, zero-relative clauses and cleft clauses.

Tasks:

i. In each of the following examples, identify the subordinate clause and say which type it represents, giving your reasons.

ii. Argue whether the following statement is right or wrong:
   “All relative clauses involve movement to Spec,CP”

iii. Draw a tree for each of the relative clauses which you identified in task (i).

(1) She did not believe that the fight against institutional racism had been won. (Cf. lines 29-30).
(2) Height was a name that few people had heard of. (Cf. line 8)
(3) It was once remarked that she never did raise her voice. (Cf. line 22).
(4) She was turned away from the final stage of the speaking competition because she was coloured. (Cf. lines 14-15)
(5) The two places which it allotted each year to African Americans had already been filled. (Cf. lines 16-17)