1. What is a minimal pair? Which of the following words would be minimal pairs? (20%)

bake	bag	bun	caught	chain
deck	fat	felt	fought	goat
hen	hot	jet	nail	nose
pet	raise	sale	tin	vote

2. "Colorless green ideas sleep furiously" is a sentence composed by Noam Chomsky in 1975. Using semantic features, how would you explain the oddness of the sentence? (20%)

3. Read the following short excerpt from *Linguistics for Everyone: An Introduction*. Find words with derivational morphemes and write down a) the found word and its syntactic category, b) the root word and its syntactic category, and c) the derivational morpheme. The first one has been done for you. (20%)

Basic definitions of this type are useful for identifying most forms in a language such as English, but they are not completely reliable. A different approach might focus on some other properties of the parts of speech.

Example of your answer		
found word	root word & its syntactic category	derivational morpheme
basic (adj.)	base (n.)	-ic

4. Write a simple sentence (S → NP VP) which meets the following three requirements: a) VP → Aux V NP PP PP; b) NP → Det AdjP N PP; and c) AdjP → AdvP Adj, **and** avoid d) NP → {pronoun; proper noun}. (20%)

5. There has been a variety of speculations about the origins of human speech. What are your arguments for and against the natural sound explanation of the origins of human language? (20%)