

30421 Gramática Inglesa 2024-25

Individual Assignment

NAME:

### INSTRUCTIONS

There are **EIGHT** questions on this assignment. Read the instructions for each question carefully. Each question carries a specific number of marks, totalling **50** points. You are to hand a **printed** version (handwritten or typed) of this assignment by 12/05/2025 at the exam. Please make sure that your work is easy to read.

1. (9p) This is an extract from *Confessions of an Air Hostess* (2005), a novel written by Marisa Mackle.

Read the text and classify each of the underlined items according to this scheme:

a) word classes (indicating types if relevant)

b) phrases

c) syntactic functions at the level of the clause and clause pattern (intransitive, monotransitive, copular, ditransitive, complex transitive)

1 The plane roars down the runway at a thundering speed. All our passengers seem excited and are  
2 chatting eagerly amongst themselves as we then soar into the air en route to sunny Lanzarote. They  
3 are no doubt looking forward to spending a lazy fortnight in half-empty Irish bars in Puerto del  
4 Carmen or Playa Blanca, watching Sky Sports on big screens and drinking San Miguel while  
5 comparing Lanzarote to the resorts they visited last year with other sunburnt Irish couples that they  
6 meet at the naff<sup>1</sup> welcome meetings. Still, I'd rather be them than me. I am wondering how I'm going  
7 to cope now that my life has collapsed all around me. How could Niall cruelly dump<sup>2</sup> me by text?  
8 How will I tell my mum? She loved Niall. Granted she'd never met him as he was a Southsider who  
9 would never dream of venturing all the way to Swords on the Northside where my parents live in a  
10 semi-detached house on a quiet estate. But I'd told her all about him and she approved. She liked  
11 the fact that he worked as an accountant, didn't smoke, didn't drink and wanted children. Just not  
12 my children it would seem.  
13 Cathy, my fellow air hostess, who is sitting beside me applying electric-blue eyeshadow, notices the  
14 tears spilling on to my hands streaking my fake tan.  
15 'Are you OK?' she enquires.  
16 'No, I'm crying because I'm happy,' I say with more than a hint of bitterness. 'I just love spending my  
17 weekends making sure happy couples arrive in comfort and safety at their sunny holiday destination.'  
18 She looks at me blankly. 'Are you being sarcastic?'  
19 'Of course I am. Yesterday I was out celebrating my longest relationship in years. I was telling my  
20 friends that I couldn't believe Niall and I had lasted three long months. We were even thinking of

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21 getting a little dog together. We were going to call her Molly. And then this morning at 7.07 a.m. I  
22 received a text telling me it was all off,' I said shakily before bursting into tears.  
23 Cathy put a skinny arm around my shoulder. 'My poor baby,' she cooed. 'What an absolute bastard!  
24 What an unbelievable coward. If he's such a loser, maybe you're better **off** without him.'  
25 'I am,' I sniffed, 'aren't I? He didn't deserve me. Didn't deserve all the love I had to give him. I just  
26 wish I hadn't given him a thousand quid to help him find his feet.'  
27 'You did **that**?' Cathy looked at me wide-eyed.  
28 'I know. I'm such a stupid fool. He was sick of his job and his boss.'  
29 '**So** you gave him the money and he found his feet no doubt.'  
30 'Yes. It seems they took him all the way to the airport where he booked a one-way flight to Australia.  
31 Now apparently he loves it so much over there he's not coming back.'

<sup>1</sup> *naff*: not stylish or fashionable (slang UK).

<sup>2</sup> *dump*: to suddenly end a romantic relationship (informal)

**Example:** *Are you being sarcastic?*' (l. 16)

- a) Auxiliary *be* + personal pronoun + main verb *be* + predicative adjective
- b) Discontinuous VP + NP + AdjP
- c) S V SP Copular

1. The plane roars down the runway

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

2. All our passengers seem excited

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

3. How could Niall cruelly dump me by text?

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

4. She looks at me blankly.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

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5. We were going to call her Molly.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

6. Cathy put a skinny arm around my shoulder.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_

2. (8p) Using the text in question 1, find one example of each of the following, giving the number of the line in the text where the example can be found.

Example: Adverb of time (frequency)      *often* (line 2)

- 1. A ditransitive verb
- 2. A compound sentence
- 3. A predeterminer
- 4. A stance adverb
- 5. A relative pronoun
- 6. A degree adverb
- 7. A complementizer
- 8. An -ed participle

3. (6p) Using the text in question 1, Identify the word class of the marked and shaded words in the extract.

Example: *talks* (line 2) — noun

as (line 2) —	as (line 11) —	even (line 20) —
to (line 3) —	electric-blue (line 13) —	off (line 24) —
all (line 7) —	because (line 16) —	that (line 27) —
just (line 11) —	holiday (line 17) —	so (line 29) —

**4. (4p) Decide whether the genitives in the following are (a) specifying genitives, (b) classifying genitives (c) time & measure genitives, (d) independent or elliptic genitives, (e) group genitives, or (f) double genitives.**

1. I queued for 15 minutes at Sainsbury's yesterday.
2. He's a good friend of the headmaster's.
3. Karen's decision to leave Britain was unfortunate.
4. Quarles died at her home Thursday morning at. 11:25, following a ten day's illness of pneumonia.
5. He ate the one pound's worth of chocolates he bought.
6. She has a doctor's degree in Pharmacy.
7. Peter went to the dentist's today.
8. One of Peter's sisters is coming to stay.

**5. (4p) Identify (a) phrasal verbs, (b) prepositional verbs, (c) phrasal prepositional verbs or (d) free combinations.**

1. But he had to deal with trying to put on a happy face and get on with his life.
2. Well, one day I went out there.
3. I picked up this abalone shell and I threw it at the cat.
4. They've only thought about one part of the problem.
5. Candidates have also long depended on seniors for votes.

**6. (4p) For each adverbial, identify the type and syntactic structure. If it is an adverb, indicate also the semantic category.**

Example: Jed followed him into the kitchen. He was still shivering.

Into the kitchen: circumstance adverbial, prepositional phrase.

Still: circumstance adverbial; adverb phrase; adverb (time)

1. I'll get Larry here Monday or Tuesday and we'll certify the laser.
2. Unfortunately, there's no simple answer.

3. Strangely Davies has never been fully appreciated.

4. Another spring onion. I should think it will go well after your jam doughnut.

**7. (6p) Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE, and a) give reasons for your answer, b) provide examples (different from the ones provided on the course notes) to illustrate it.**

1. Postmodification is an optional function present only in the NP.

2. Verbs which are intransitive can never be monotransitive.

3. Primary verbs can serve as both main verbs and auxiliary verbs

8. (9p) By what grammatical means is humour created in the following jokes? Do not forget to give a full explanation of your own, using the appropriate terminology and making reference to concrete topics from the course syllabus.

1. This is an old joke: A man leaves a hotel and asks the porter 'Can you call me a taxi?', 'Yes, Sir', replies the porter, 'You're a taxi'.

2.



"This is the kind of grade up with which my dad won't put."

3. What's the difference between a literalist and a kleptomaniac?

One takes things literally.

The other takes things, literally.