SEMANTICS

Exercise 1: For each group of words given below, state what **semantic features** are shared by the (a) words and the (b) words, and what **semantic features** distinguish between the classes of (a) words and (b) words. The first one is done as an example.

1. (a) *lobster, shrimp, crab, oyster, mussel*

   (b) *trout, sole, herring, salmon, mackerel*

The (a) and (b) words are [+edible water animal].

The (a) words are [+shellfish].

The (b) words are [+fish].

2. (a) *widow, mother, sister, aunt, seamstress*

   (b) *widower, father, brother, uncle, tailor*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

3. (a) *bachelor, son, paperboy, pope, chief*

   (b) *bull, rooster, drake, ram, stallion*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

4. (a) *table, pencil, cup, house, ship, car*

(b) *milk, tea, wine, beer, water, soft drink*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

5. (a) *book, temple, mountain, road, tractor*

(b) *idea, love, charity, sincerity, bravery, fear*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____|

6. (a) *rose, lily, tulip, daisy, sunflower, violet*

(b) *ash, oak, sycamore, willow, beech*

(c) *pine, cedar, jew, spruce, cypress*

The (a) (b) and (c) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

The (c) words are _____

7. (a) *book, letter, encyclopaedia, novel, notebook, dictionary*

   (b) *typewriter, pencil, ballpoint, crayon, quill, charcoal, chalk*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

8. (a) *walk, run, skip, jump, hop, swim*

   (b) *fly, skate, ski, ride, cycle, canoe, hang-glide*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

9. (a) *ask, tell, say, talk, converse*

   (b) *shout, whisper, mutter, drawl, holler*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

10. (a) *alive, asleep, awake, dead, half-dead, pregnant*

   (b) *depressed, bored, excited, upset, amazed, surprised*

The (a) and (b) words are _____

The (a) words are _____

The (b) words are _____

Exercise 2 : Are *the following pairs of words binary antonyms?*

(1) *chalk--cheese*   Yes / No   (4) *dead--alive*   Yes / No

(2) *same--different*   Yes / No   (5)*married--unmarried*   Yes / No

(3) *copper--tin*   Yes / No   (6) *cheap--expensive*   Yes / No

Exercise 3 : Are *the following pairs of words relational antonyms?*

(1) *below--above* Yes / No   (4)*grandparent--grandchild* Yes / No

(2) *love--hate* Yes / No   (5) *greater than--less than* Yes / No

(3) *conceal--reveal*[31] Yes / No   (6) *own--belong to*   Yes / No

Exercise 4 : State whether *the following pairs of antonyms* are *binary, gradable* or *relational* by writing B (*binary*), G (*gradable*) or R (*relational*):

1. *good--bad*: _____
2. *pass--fail*: _____
3. *deciduous--evergreen*:_____
4. *expensive—cheap*: _____
5. *parent--offspring*: _____
6. *beautiful--ugly*: _____
7. *false--true*:_____
8. *lessor--lessee*: _____

9. *import--export*: _____
10. *better than--worse than*: ____
11. *easy--difficult*: _____
12. *hot--cold*: _____
13. *legal--illegal*: _____
14. *asleep--awake*: _____
15. *rude--polite*: _____
16. *husband--wife*: _____

Exercise 5 : Explain *the lexical ambiguity* in each of the following sentences by providing two sentences that paraphrase its two different meanings.

The first one is done as an example.

1. They were waiting at <u>the bank</u>.

Meaning one: *They were waiting at <u>the financial institution</u>.*

Meaning two: *They were waiting at <u>the shore of the river</u>.*

2. The long drill is boring.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

3. When he got the clear title to the land, it was a good deed.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

4. The proprietor of the fish store was the sole owner.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

5. We like the ball.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

6. They passed the port at night.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

7. The captain corrected the list.

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

8. *He was knocked over by the punch.*

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____

9. *The camel swallowed the chocolate and then ate it.*

Meaning one: _____

Meaning two: _____