

### Definitions for Quiz in ENGL 340

**Question forms: three questions: 1. Define the following five; 2. Provide the technical term for the following three definitions; and 3. Provide an example of the following**

1. **traditional grammar:** the description of the structure of phrases and sentences based on established categories used in the analysis of Latin and Greek
2. **prescriptive approach:** an approach to grammar that has rules for the proper use of the language, traditionally based on Latin
3. **descriptive approach:** an approach to grammar that is based on a description of the structures actually used in a language, not what should be used, in contrast to the prescriptive approach
4. **constituent analysis:** a grammatical analysis of how small constituents (or components) go together to form larger constituents in sentences
5. **structural ambiguity:** a situation in which a single phrase or sentence has two (or more) different underlying structures and interpretations
6. **structural analysis:** the investigation of the distribution of grammatical forms in a language
7. **generative grammar:** a set of rules defining the possible sentences in a language
8. **complementiser (C):** a word such as *that* introducing a complement phrase (as in I heard that she is late.)
9. **complement phrase (CP):** a structure such as that Mary helped George used to complete a construction beginning with a structure such as Cathy knew
10. **syntax (syntactic structures):** (the analysis of) the structure of phrases and sentences
11. **noun (N):** a word such as boy, bicycle or freedom used to describe a person, thing or idea
12. **noun phrase (NP):** a phrase such as the boy or an old bicycle, containing a noun plus other constituents

13. **verb (V)**: a word such as go, drown or know used to describe an action, event or state
14. **verb phrase (VP)**: a phrase such as saw a dog, containing a verb and other constituents
15. **preposition (Prep)**: a word such as in or with used with a noun phrase
16. **preposition phrase (PP)**: a phrase such as with a dog, consisting of a preposition plus a noun phrase
17. **tree diagram**: a diagram with branches showing the hierarchical organization of structures