Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NetID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Discussion section: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Linguistics 1010 – Week 4**

**Make-up assignment**

1. The meaning of words cannot be transmitted in the acoustic signal during spoken language use. Where does the meaning of words come from during language use?

2. What are the two organizational principles of the lexicon?

3. Choose any word of the English language and draw a semantic network for it that contains at least 10 other words, and at least two steps to the network.

4. Observe the two pairs of words in (a) and (b) below. Which of the two pairs is more likely to show semantic priming effects in a lexical decision task?

a. banana / apple b. giraffe / screen

5. What is the difference between a *prescriptive grammar* and a *descriptive grammar*? Why do linguists study one but not the other?

6. The ungrammatical sentence **\**Wrote John an essay*** expresses a valid and plausible thought (namely that someone named John wrote an essay). Explain in your own words what rule of grammar (rule of syntax) is being violated by this sentence.

7. Why can you understand sentences that you have never heard before, while you are not able to understand words that you have never heard before?

8. Provide examples of your own to show that there is an infinite number of sentences in English.

9. Which of the lists below contains words that belong to the same syntactic category?

a. car, apple, dog, computer, worked, mouse

b. completely, interestingly, belly, well, often, happily

c. blue, old, interesting, nice, happy, colorful

d. rain, work, swim, John, Mary, written

Create a sentence frame with a blank space, such that each of the words in the list can fit in the frame and lead to a grammatical sentence:

10. The sentence below, written by Lewis Carroll, is composed of made-up words:

*Twas brillig, and the* ***slithy*** *toves did* ***gyre*** *and gimble in the* ***wabe****.*

a. What is the syntactic category of each of the words in boldface?

slithy: \_\_\_\_\_

gyre: \_\_\_\_\_

wabe: \_\_\_\_\_

b. If you don’t know what these words mean (they are made-up!), how are you able to identify their syntactic categories?

11. The sentence below is ambiguous. The two meanings can be explained by the concept of *hierarchical structure*. Draw two trees for this sentence following the example from lecture, one for each meaning of the sentence.

*Mike saw an elephant in his pajamas.*