

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006**

**TITLE OF PAPER : INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS**

**COURSE CODE AL200**

**TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS: :**
- 1. ANSWER SIX (6) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
  - 2. ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL MARKS.**
  - 3. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSION AND FORMALISM, SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE.**
  - 4. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES.**
  - 5. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

### **QUESTION 1**

Compare the careful speech and the rapid speech pronunciations of the Cichewa clause given below. Then do the task which follows:

Careful speech.

Ndifuna upita            'I would like to go'

Rapid speech

Ndifuno pita            'I would like to go'

- (a) Name and define the process which makes the rapid speech different from the careful speech.
- (b) Explain the process as it applies to the specific Cichewa example cited above.  
[10 marks]

### **QUESTION 2**

- (a) Write morphological rules to generate the words which follow:
  1. affectionately
  2. information
  3. normality
  4. illegalize
  5. hyphenate
- (b) For each of the words above, write down the stem and its affix(es) separately.

### **QUESTION 3**

Each of the noun phrases given below is ambiguous. For each of them, do the following task:

- (a) Briefly state its two meanings.
- (b) Use syntactic structure to represent the ambiguity.
  1. Namibian history teacher.
  2. New School management.

### **QUESTION 4**

With the aid of distinctive features and conventional notations, formalise the rules below presented informally. (do not use phonetic cover terms like C, V, or G).

- (a) The vowels /i/ and /u/ become glides before /e, o, a, /

- (b) A consonant is labialised when it precedes the vowel /u/ or /o/.
- (c) The sequence /a/ /i/ is realised as [e] when either a morpheme or word boundary intervenes between them.
- (d) A vowel is nasalised before or after a nasal consonant.
- (e) A word-final nasal is deleted when it occurs in phrase-final position.

[10 marks]

### QUESTION 5

Study the surface structure sentences provided below, and do the task which follows:

- (i) Forests are destroyed by elephants.
  - (ii) Will you pass this course?
- (a) Provide a deep structure sentence for each of the surface structure sentence above.
  - (b) For each surface structure, name and formalise the transformation which derives it from its deep structure.

[10 marks]

### QUESTION 6

- (a) Provide a morphological rule of compounding for each of the following compound words:

- (i) Witch-hunt
- (ii) Blacklist
- (iii) Sleepwalk
- (iv) Outlive.

- (b) Express the four rules you provided above as a single rule.

### QUESTION 7

Considering a five vowel system in some Bantu languages, write down the sound segment which each set of the distinctive features that follow in (a) – (d) specify.

- (a)  $\begin{bmatrix} - & \text{high} \\ - & \text{low} \\ + & \text{back} \end{bmatrix}$

- (c)  $\begin{bmatrix} + & \text{high} \\ - & \text{back} \end{bmatrix}$

- (b)  $\begin{bmatrix} + & \text{high} \\ + & \text{back} \end{bmatrix}$

- (d)  $\begin{bmatrix} - & \text{high} \\ - & \text{low} \\ - & \text{back} \end{bmatrix}$

### QUESTION 8

Study the Finnish verbal paradigm provided below and do the task which follows:

(i) Singular

- |     |               |       |               |
|-----|---------------|-------|---------------|
| (a) | first person  | puhum | 'I speak'     |
| (b) | second person | puhut | 'you speak'   |
| (c) | Third person  | puhuu | 's/he speaks' |

(ii) Plural

- |     |               |         |              |
|-----|---------------|---------|--------------|
| (a) | First person  | puhumme | 'we speak'   |
| (b) | Second person | puhutte | 'you speak'  |
| (c) | Third person  | puhuvat | 'they speak' |

Identify and write down the verb stem and the inflectional affix for each person in the data.