

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

- TITLE OF PAPER** : **LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE II**
- COURSE CODE** : **AL300/IDE-AL300**
- TOTAL MARKS** : **100**
- TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS**
- INSTRUCTIONS** :
1. **ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
 2. **ANSWER ONE (1) QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.**
 3. **LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS 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.

SECTION A**NOUN STRUCTURE; CLASSIFICATION AND DERIVATION (NOMINALIZATION)****QUESTION 1**

With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss, the distribution of the following basic prefixes and their variants:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|
| (a) | class 1/2 plural | (6) |
| (b) | class 11/10 singular | (6) |
| (c) | class 14 | (7) |
| (d) | class 15 | (6) |

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 2

There seems to be a disagreement among linguists concerning the prefixes of class 9/10 in some Bantu languages. Some linguists claim that there is no nasal in these prefixes while others believe that there is. With the aid of examples, discuss Herbert's (1977) arguments (three) that support the presence of a nasal in these prefixes.

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 3

- (a) Nouns in siSwati are classified in various classes. Briefly discuss critically the following types of noun classification when used in siSwati nouns.

Do not use examples:

- | | | |
|------|---------------------------------|-----|
| i) | Dokean's classification | (4) |
| ii) | Meinhof's classification | (6) |
| iii) | Bantu linguists' classification | (4) |

(14)

- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss the mechanisms that are used in siSwati when borrowing from foreign languages. (11)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 4

- (a) What was Jackendoff's (1974) lexical hypothesis intended to capture? (3)
- (b) What type of morphological derivations (rules) does it (Jackendoff's theory) deals with?

- (c) Chomsky's (1970) Lexical Hypothesis seems to fail in handling agentives and objectives in siSwati. Comment on this statement. (1)
(16)
- (d) Can the derivation of diminutives in siSwati be handled by Jackendoff's (1974) or Chomsky's (1970) hypotheses and why? (5)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

SECTION B

PRONOUNS AND NOMINALIZATION

QUESTION 5

List the absolute pronouns for all the classes (excluding first and second persons) using a three morpheme analysis and describe its structure. [TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 6

- (a) If Guma (1971) had realized that absolute pronouns do have concords he would have classified absolute pronouns as qualificatives. Comment on this statement. (15)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss five secondary usage of an absolute pronoun. (10)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 7

- (a) List the demonstrative, second position for all the classes (excluding the first and the second persons) and describe its structure. (22)
- (b) With the aid of siSwati example under each use, discuss two secondary uses of the demonstrative pronoun second position. (3)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 8

- (a) Define the term nominalization. (1)
- (b) Does compounding fall under nominalization and why? (2)
- (c) Bauer (1993:30) states that compounds can be divided into four groups on the basis of semantics. Give the names of the four groups. (4)

- (d) O'Grady et al (1993:125) state that a compound never has more than two constituents. Name these constituents. (2)
- (e) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss the four types or groups of the compounds you gave under (8(c)) above. (16)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

SECTION C

THE QUALIFICATIVE

QUESTION 9

- (a) List the basic prefixes of all classes and the Enumerative qualificative concords side by side. (32 ÷ 2 = 16)
- (b) Compare and contrast the basic prefixes and the Enumerative concords that you have listed above. (9)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 10

- (a) Draw the deep structure of the sentence: Umfati nendvodza lenkhulu kakhulu babulele inja lesigolwane emini. (9 ½)
- (b) What part of speech is the word written in italics? (½)
- (c) With the aid of examples under each use discuss at least seven secondary usages of the word that is written in italics. (14)
- (d) What is the main function of the words that belong to the part of speech of the underlined word under (10(a)) above? (1)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 11

Compare and contrast the differences that might be observed when the adjective is used predicatively or attributively. Use siSwati examples.

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

QUESTION 12

According to Doke (1927:121-122) the "Descriptive Possessive with Noun Base" can be used to designate certain types. With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss at least six of these types.

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]

SECTION D**OTHER TOPICS RELATED TO SISWATI NOUN PHRASE (NP)****QUESTION 13**

- (a) Explain briefly the problem that is encountered in most Bantu languages, including siSwati, when the subject Noun Phrase of a sentence consists of conjoined nouns. (5)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss, how the problem you have stated under (13(a)) can be solved in siSwati. (20)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]**QUESTION 14**

Using siSwati examples, give a brief account on the place and manner of articulation and the glottal activity involved in the production of the following speech sounds. Provide an example of a word in which this speech sound is found.

- (a) [pʰ] (5)
- (b) [ɲ] (5)
- (c) [cʰ] (5)
- (d) [ʔ] (5)
- (e) [čʰ] (5)

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]**QUESTION 15**

In siSwati, a sequence of vowels is not allowed at the phonetic level within the same syllable. With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss at least five devices that are used in the language in order to avoid this sequence.

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]**QUESTION 16**

With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss how borrowed nouns are “nativized”. Discuss at least eight processes.

[TOTAL MARKS = 25]