

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE
III
COURSE CODE : AL400 /IDE- AL400
TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS :

1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
2. ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.
3. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE.
4. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FRO UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES.
5. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.

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

SECTION A

THE VERB AND THE COPULATIVE

Answer at Least One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 1

- a) What do we mean by classification of the verb (5 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples, discuss the classification of the verb radical on the basis of the feature syllable and then explain the linguistic significance of such a classification. (20 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

- a) Explain what the causative extension indicate. (5 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, explain that the causative extension comes from a biclausal structure. (20 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

- a) Explain what is meant by the term verbal extension (5 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples, explain why the reduplication that occurs with siSwati verbs should not be considered as a verbal extension. (5)
- c) Using examples to illustrate your answer, discuss fully how the process of verb reduplication that occurs in siSwati takes place. (15 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

Like the verb, the copulative can be conjugated into various moods. Using the copulative *-ngubabe*, conjugate the copulative in the potential mood, present tense, positive, progressive implication and then explain how you have formed it.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 5

With the aid of examples, discuss fully any two of the following copulative constructions paying special attention to (a) the relationship between subject and complement and (b) the syntactic structure of the construction

- a) the identification type
- b) the descriptive type
- c) the associative type

[25 MARKS]

SECTION B

THE ADVERB, IDEOPHONE, CONJUNCTIVE AND INTERJECTIVE

Answer One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 6

Locative inversion can be derived from the noun by using different formatives.

- a) Discuss three of such formatives. (5)
- b) Discuss fully the derivation of the locative from the following types of nouns.
 - i) Proper nouns denoting rivers, mountains, areas and cities. (10)
 - ii) nouns of class 1/ 2 (5)
 - iii) nouns from the rest of the classes (5)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 7

Sibanda and Mthembu (1996) identify two distinct types of ideophones, namely the onomatopoeic and the descriptive types.

- a) With the aid of examples discuss each type. (10)
- b) Discuss fully the characteristics of the onomatopoeic type of ideophones. (15)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

- a) With the aid of examples define a conjunctive (5)
- b) Discuss fully the mechanism used by siSwati native speakers to resolve gender conflict when conjoined nouns are used as Subject Nps. (20)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 9

- a) What is an interjective? (5)
- b) Discuss fully the derivation of the interjective from the following:
- i) nouns denoting surnames
 - ii) nouns denoting names of people
 - iii) nouns denoting animals and other inanimate objects
 - iv) absolute pronouns
 - v) demonstrative pronoun. (20)

[25 MARKS]

SECTION C

MISCELLANEOUS

Answer at least one Question from this Section

QUESTION 10

- a) With appropriate examples, discuss the following concepts with regards to child language acquisition.
- i) symbol
 - ii) index
 - iii) icon
 - iv) images
 - v) sign (10)
- b) With the aid of examples, discuss fully any three of the following semantic theories in relation to the semantic development in child language acquisition.
- i) Associationist theory
 - ii) Categorial or semantic feature theory

- iii) Cognitive theory
 - iv) Phototype theory
- (15)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 11

- a) What is case grammar? (5)
- b) With the help of appropriate tree structure diagrams, discuss fully Fillmore's case grammar. (20)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 12

With the aid of examples, discuss the structure, use and significance of Wh- question in siSwati.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 13

With the aid of examples from any language of your choice, discuss the difference between linguistics and grammar.

[25 MARKS]