UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER:	INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS (WESTERN AND BANTU)
COURSE CODE:	AL401
TIME ALLOWED:	THREE (3) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS:	1. ANSWER SIX (6) QUESTIONS IN ALL: THREE (3) FROM SECTION B.
	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.

SECTION A: WESTERN LINGUISTICS

Answer Three (3) Questions only

QUESTION 1

List and explain (with examples) the categorization of Universals according to Greenberg.   [10 marks]

QUESTION 2

Study the data reproduced below and do the task which follows: [10 marks]

Proto-slavic   Bulgarian

gladuka	glatka	'smooth'
kratuka	kratka	'short'
blizuka	bliska	'near'
lovuka	lofka	'adroit'

- (a)   Specify the changes between Proto-slavic and Bulgarian.
- (b)   Classify the changes as conditioned or unconditioned.
- (c)   State the order in which the changes occurred, and briefly account for the order.

QUESTION 3

Briefly state the weaknesses of each of the three phases which the study of languages passed through before it was established as a true science.

[10 marks]

QUESTION 4

In Modern English, case inflections have been lost. Briefly explain how information which was previously expressed through the use of case inflections is conveyed in Modern English.   [10 marks]

QUESTION 5

Borrowing may be categorized into three types on the basis of the social contexts in which it occurs. Name and explain the three types.   [10 marks]

QUESTION 6

In which sense do studies of universals and those of typology complement each other?

[10 marks]

SECTION B: BANTU LINGUISTICS

Answer THREE Questions only.

QUESTION 1

Study the Cichewa names given below and do the task which follows:

1. dzina   (cl 5) 'name'   maina   (cl 6) 'names'
2. dzila   (cl 5) 'egg'   maila   (cl 6) 'eggs'
3. dziko   (cl 5) 'country'   maiko   (cl 6) 'countries'
4. dzanja (cl 5) 'hand'   manja   (cl 6) 'hands'
5. dzungu (cl 5) 'pumpkin'   maungu (cl 6) 'pumpkins'
6. dzino   (cl s) 'tooth'   mano   (cl 6) 'teeth'.

    (a)   What is the class 5 prefix in the nouns given above?

    (b)   Explain how it was derived from the Proto-Bantu prefix.

    (c)   State its allormophs,

    (d)   Explain their distribution.

[10 marks]

QUESTION 2

Name and explain the commonest five sound changes involving consonants that have taken place in modern Bantu Languages during their development from Proto-Bantu.

[10 marks]

QUESTION 3

(a)   Name all the different theories of Bantu origin and spread.

(b)   Explain two of them.

[10 marks]

QUESTION 4

(a) Name three sub-categories of the primitive radical found in Bantu languages.

(b) Indicate to which of the sub-types of the primitive radical you named in (a) above each of the following radicals belongs:

    (i)   - hlek-   'laugh'   (zulu)

    (ii)   -lw-   'fight'   (Bemba)

    (iii)   -ph-   'kill'   (chewa)

    (iv)   -fitlh-   'hide'   (Tswana)

    (v)   - kumbuk- 'remember'   (Tumbuka)

                                                          [10 marks]

QUESTION 5

Study the Lamba data provided below, and do the tasks which follow:

(i)	-cit.il-	'do for'	<	-cit-	'do'
(ii)	-pat.il-	'scold for'	<	-pat-	'scold'
(iii)	-kunt.il	'shake for'	<	-kunt-	'shake'
(iv)	-cet.el-	'spy for'	<	-cent-	'spy'
(v)	-sonk.il	'pay tax for'	<	-sonk-	'pay tax'
(vi)	-lim.in	'cultivate for'	<	-lim-	'cultivate'
(vii)	-kan.in-	'deny for'	<	-kan-	'deny'
(viii)	–pum.in-	'beat for'	<	-pum-	'beat'
(ix)	-fweny.en-	'sratch for'	<	-fweny-	'scratch'
(x)	-pon.en-	'fall for'	<	-pon-	'fall'

(a) Name the verbal extension found in the data above.

(b) List the allomorphs of this extension in Lamba, and describe the distribution of the allomorphs.   [10 marks]

QUESTION 6

(a) What is meant by 'true adjective' in Bantu languages?

(b) What morphemes constitute a 'true adjective'?

(c) State two ways in which 'true adjectives' and nouns resemble each other.

                                                            [10 marks]