

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2007

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS (WESTERN AND BANTU)

COURSE CODE: AL301

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER TEN (10) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
 - 2. ANSWER FIVE (5) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A AND FIVE (5) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**
 - 3. ALL QUESTIONS HAVE EQUAL MARKS.**
 - 4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE.**
 - 5. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLINGS AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES.**
 - 6. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.**

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

SECTION A: BANTU LINGUISTICS

QUESTION 1

State four weaknesses of the early recorders of Bantu words.

QUESTION 2

After briefly explaining what genetic classification of languages consists of, give four of the problems that comparative linguists have encountered in their application of the genetic classification of languages.

QUESTION 3

Using Doke's and Guthrie's classifications of the Bantu languages, give the code number/letter of the languages which fit the following descriptions:

- (a) the fourth language in the third group of the first zone.
- (b) The second dialect of the fifth language of the fourth group of the fifth zone.

QUESTION 4

Briefly explain the three principles applied by Greenberg in the classification of African languages.

QUESTION 5

Describe and critically evaluate the contributions to Bantu linguistic studies by Brusciotto.

SECTION B: WESTERN LINGUISTICS

QUESTION 1

Who were the most significant contributors to Western linguistic knowledge from outside Europe in ancient times?

QUESTION 2

- (a) Distinguish between 'analogy and anomaly.
- (b) What was the position of the stoics in this debate of 'analogy-anomaly'?

QUESTION 3

- (a) State four characteristic events of the Renaissance period.
- (b) What was the status of the Latin during the Middle ages?
- (c) Give two major obstacles that the teaching/learning of Latin did face in Europe.

QUESTION 4

What is the major difference between Bloomfield's and Sapir's approaches to the study of language?

QUESTION 5

Name and explain the three phases in the development of Chomskyan Transformational generative grammar.