

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2007

**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 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 IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A**THE VERB AND THE COPULATIVE****QUESTION 1**

Consider the following sentence and answer the questions that follow: Nanguya umfana.

- (a) What type of copulative is the underlined word? (2)
- (b) What position does it indicate? Define this position. (3)
- (c) Give the lists of the copulatives that are found in various classes that belong to the position you gave under (1(b)) above. (8)
- (d) Write sentences that have the following characteristics:
- i) - a copulative that is formed from the noun of class 7/8 singular. (2)
- ii) - a copulative formed from a noun of class 9/10 singular. (2)
- iii) - a copulative formed from a noun of class 3/4 singular. (2)
- iv) - a copulative formed from a non-verbal relative stem. (2)
- (e) How is the copulative you gave under (1(d)(iv)) above formed? (4)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

- a) With the aid of examples from your main language discuss the syntactic classification of the verbs that are requiring one nominal complement (i.e. type: V - Noun). (18)
- (b) The following sentence is said to be ambiguous in four ways. BoZipho bayatsandzana. Give or explain the four meanings. (7)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

List the types of non-productive extensions according to Doke (1927:151-155) analysing/separating the root the verb it is attached to by means of a hyphen. The examples given must be taken from siSwati instead of Zulu.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

- a) Doke (1927:155-159) points out that verbs can be derived from other parts of speech (grammatical categories) other than the verbs. For each of the siSwati given words below derive a verb indicating the part of speech (grammatical category) from which this verb is derived separating the derivational morpheme by means of a hyphen.

Example: nci.

Response: nci - ph - a: nci - is an adjectival stem.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| (a) ipholishi | l) - monyu |
| (b) - dvuma | m) - manca |
| (c) - hhewu | n) - mbo |
| (d) - ligovu | o) - petu |
| (e) - lula | p) - imbulu |
| (f) - hlwi | q) - mfm |
| (g) - livila | r) - faca |
| (h) - indvodza | s) - khulu |
| (i) - ishintji | t) - emahloni |
| (j) - khwibi | u) - emanti |
| (k) - mnandzi | v) - cishi |

(11)

- (b) With the aid of examples from your main language, discuss how monosyllabic and disyllabic verbs are reduplicated in siSwati.

(14)

[25 MARKS]**QUESTION 5**

Using the Transformational Generative Grammar (TGG) approach derive the following sentence. Zethu ubukana naSu.

[25 MARKS]**SECTION B****TENSE, ASPECT AND MOOD****QUESTION 6**

With the aid of siSwati examples, discuss how Action Nominals (Infinitives) are similar to nouns. Discuss at least eight similarities.

[25 MARKS]**QUESTION 7**

With the aid of siSwati examples, discuss the structure of the verb in the indicative mood remote past tense, using the High Tone, using five aspects, positive and negative.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

- (a) Briefly explain what is meant by “polite request”. (1)
- (b) Using the morpheme -bo- construct or write polite request sentences using the nouns from all noun classes, including the first and second persons as subject NPs of your construction. The sentences given should be in the positive and negative and should have an object concord. (20)
- (c) Give the structure of the verbs, in the positive and negative, of the sentences you gave under (18(b)). Note; only two structures should be given. (4)

[25 MARKS]**QUESTION 9**

- (a) What is the meaning of a sentence that has a verb which is used in a potential mood? (2)
- (b) Write sentences in the potential mood, positive, for the following tenses using the simple, progressive and exclusive implication. Give the structure of the verb used in each sentence as well.
- i) - present tense (6)
- ii) - remote past tense using long vowel [aa]. (6)
- iii) - remote past tense using a high tone. (6)
- (c) The potential mood cannot be used with the future tense. Briefly explain why this is the case, if you agree with the statement if not explain why? (5)

[25 MARKS]**SECTION C****THE ADVERB, THE IDEOPHONE, THE CONJUNCTIVE AND THE INTERJECTIVE****QUESTION 10**

- a) Define the expressions “primitive interjectives” and “derived interjections”. (5)
- b) Write two sentences:
- (i) - one with a primitive interjective. (2)
- (ii) - one with a derived interjective. (2)

[4]

- c) With the aid of examples from your main language, discuss critically at least four characteristics that make interjectives (superficially) similar to imperatives. (16)
[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 11

- (a) There has been a debate among linguists such as Kunene (1965), Doke and Mafokeng (1957), to mention a few, about the classification of ideophones. State the category underwhich Kunene (1965) wants the ideophone to be classified. (1)
- (b) With the aid of examples from your main language discuss at least four characteristics that make an ideophone similar to an adverb. (16)
- (c) Write sentences that have the following characteristics:
- (i) - a sentence with a quinesyllabic ideophone. (2)
 - (ii) - a sentence with an ideophone that describes/qualifies colour. (2)
 - (iii) - a sentence with an ideophone derived from an infinitive. (2)
 - (iv) - a sentence with an ideophone that ends up with a consonant. (2)
- [8]

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 12

- (a) In Siswati, as in most Nguni languages, when the subject nouns are conjoined in a sentence there arise a problem. Briefly explain the nature of this problem. (5)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss at least four ways which siSwati uses in order to overcome the problem you stated under (12(a)) above. (20)
[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 13

- (a) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss the formation of adverbs of manner. (10)
- (b) Write sentences with the following characteristics:
- (i) - adverb of manner modifying a verb. (2)
 - (ii) - adverb of manner modifying another adverb of manner. (2)
 - (iii) - adverb of manner modifying an adjective. (2)
 - (iv) - adverb of manner modifying a relative. (2)

- (v) - an adverb of manner modifying an adverb of time. (3)
- (vi) - an adverb formed from the demonstrative pronoun, second position. (3)
- (vii) - an adverb formed from a proper noun indicating place. (1)

[25 MARKS]

SECTION D

MISCELLANEOUS, PAPERS WRITTEN BY DIFFERENT SCHOLARS ETC.

QUESTION 14

- (a) Simpson (1979) believes that Fillmore's (1968) paper was important in three ways. Briefly discuss these three important things. (8)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, define what is meant by a semantic subject versus a syntactic one; the semantic object versus the syntactic one. (8)
- (c) Write the deep structure of the following sentence using the Case Grammar approach. Also explain what type of noun this is that is, semantic or syntactic subject or object? Ingubo idzabukile. (9)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 15

Discuss the difference that might be observed between Chichewa verbs and ideophones according to Kulemeka (1994). Limit your response to non-syntactic distribution.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 16

- (a) When are conditional sentences used? (2)
- (b) Saloné(1977) states that: "conditionals can be classified semantically into three categories". With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss these categories. (15)

- (c) Under what conditions is a sentence in the potential mood used? (3)
- (d) Briefly explain why the perfective aspect marker is -ile- -e is not regarded as a tense marker by Kunene (1993). (5)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 17

Compare and contrast the conjoining of subject NPs in Haya according to Kageyama (1977:133) and siSwati and the subject agreements etc. that they use when conjoining them.

[25 MARKS]