# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

## FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - MAY 2008

### B.A DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN
                LANGUAGE 11

COURSE NUMBER:  AL300/IDE-AL300

TIME ALLOWED:   TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

    1.    ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL

    2.    ANSWER ONLY ONE 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

## THE NOUN

**Answer ONE Question from this Section**

## QUESTION 1

'There is a controversy surrounding the singular prefix of class 1a/2a nouns in siSwati."
With the aid of examples explain this controversy and go on to present your informed
position with regards to this matter.

**[20 Marks]**

## QUESTION 2

a) With the aid of examples from any language of your choice, explain the
difference between an anaphor and a pronominal. (6)

b) With the aid of examples discuss fully, the structure form and function of the
reflexive pronoun in siSwati and explain how it differs from the object concord.
(14)

**[20 Marks]**

## QUESTION 3

a) What is meant by the term nominalization? Give appropriate examples to
illustrate your answer. (5)

b) With the aid of examples discuss fully the formation of agentive nominals in
siSwati , specifying clearly the differences between various types of agentive
nominals that exist in the language. (15)

**[20 Marks]**

# SECTION B

## THE PRONOUN AND THE QUALIFICATIVE

**Answer only ONE Question from this Section**


### QUESTION 4

Traditional grammarians like Doke, Nyembezi and Dlamini distinguish between what they call a qualificative pronoun from a qualificative.

   a)     Using appropriate examples from siSwati define each according to the
          traditional grammarians                                    (5)

   b)     Show that this analysis is not linguistically valid (5)

   c)     Using suitable examples explain how the qualificative can be better analyzed
                                                                     (10)
                                                            **[20 Marks]**


### QUESTION 5

   a)     Give four descriptive adjectival stems. Remember to gloss them
                                                                     (2)
   b)     Give four numeral adjectival stems. Gloss them appropriately.
                                                                     (2)
   c)     Use two of the stems you listed in (a) above attributively
                                                                     (2)
   d)     Use two of the stems you listed in (b) predicatively
                                                                     (2)
   e)     With reference to the sentences you wrote in ( c) and (d) above, discuss four
          differences that are observed when the adjective is used attributively from
          when it is used predicatively.                    (12)
                                                            **[20 Marks]**

### QUESTION 6

With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss the structure, use and significance of the demonstrative pronoun speaker proximal (first position)
                                                            **[20 Marks]**

## SECTION C

## LINGUISTIC PAPERS AND ARTICLES

**Answer only ONE Question from this Section**

## QUESTION 7

Canonici (1989) presents four different criteria for determining noun classes in Bantu.

a) Discuss three of these criteria pointing out the merits and demerits of each of them. (5)

b) Discuss in full how the patterning of concordial agreement helps in deciding not only the prefixes of borrowed nouns but their classes as well especially in times of doubt. (15)

**[20 Marks]**

## QUESTION 8

Givon (1971) claims that the human class (class 1/ 2) did not exist at some earlier stage in Bantu linguistic history.

With the aid of examples from his article advance four arguments that support his claim.

**[20 Marks]**

## QUESTION 9

a) Sibanda (1995) outlines two important observations made by Kunene about compounds in siSwati. With the aid of examples discuss fully the two observations made by Kunene. (5)

b) Sibanda goes on to discuss three different types of compounds found in siSwati. with the aid of examples discuss fully two of the types of compounds. (15)

**[20 Marks]**

## QUESTION 10

Using Herbert (19 77) prove that in languages where the singular and plural of class 9/10 nouns are identical the prefix is a nasal. (20)

**[20 Marks]**