

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - MAY 2008**

**B.A DEGREE**

**TITLE OF PAPER :** LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN  
LANGUAGE 111

**COURSE NUMBER:** 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. ANSWERS SHOULD BE ADEQUATELY ILLUSTRATED, BRIEF AND PRECISE.
  4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE
  5. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES
  6. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.

**HIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED**

## SECTION A

### THE VERB AND THE COPULATIVE

*Answer at Least ONE Question from this Section*

#### QUESTION 1

- a) With the aid of examples explain the term “verbal extension (2 marks)
  - b) Explain why verb reduplication should not be considered as a verbal extension (3 Marks)
  - c) With the aid of examples discuss fully the process of reduplication as observed with siSwati verbs. (20 Marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 2

- a) Using examples from siSwati explain the following concepts.
  - i) simple implication
  - ii) exclusive implication
  - iii) progressive implication (9 Marks)
- b) Explain the difference both in structure and in meaning between the exclusive and the progressive implications (6 Marks)
- c) Give a table of the potential mood, progressive implication of the present tense, negative, and then explain how you have formed it. (10 Marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 3

- a) Define the copulative (5 Marks)
- b) Using appropriate examples from siSwati, prove that the copulative is in complementary distribution with the verb. (5 Marks)
- c) Discuss fully the derivation of the copulative from the noun (15 Marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 4**

With the aid of examples from siSwati 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 at Least ONE Question from this Section*

#### **QUESTION 5**

With the aid of examples from your language discuss fully the derivation of the adverb of place from nouns.

[25 MARKS]

#### **QUESTION 6**

With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss fully the characteristics of onomatopoeic ideophones, (the ones Sibanda and Mthembu (1996) call *tifutamsindvo* and *tifutasento*)

[25 MARKS]

#### **QUESTION 7**

- a) What is meant by the term primitive conjunctive (1 mark)
- b) Give three primitive conjunctives (3 marks)
- c) Use each of the conjunctives you have given in (b) above in sentence constructions. In the first sentence the conjunctive should be at the beginning of a sentence, in the second sentence the conjunctive should be in the middle of the sentence and in the last sentence the conjunctive should be at the end of the sentence. (3 marks)

- d) Now explain which two different ideas each conjunctive connects in the sentences you have constructed in ( c ) above (6 marks)
- e) Using appropriate examples show how primitive conjunctives can be inflected to form copulatives. (12 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 8**

- a) With the aid of examples explain the primitive and the derived interjectives. (5 Marks)
- b) With the aid of examples discuss how the interjective is derived from FIVE different grammatical categories. (20 Marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

**SECTION C**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

*Answer at least ONE Question from this Section*

**QUESTION 9**

- a) What is meant by syntactically based grammar? (5 marks)
- b) What is meant by semantically based grammar? (5 marks)
- c) With the aid of examples from English discuss three criticisms that have been leveled against syntactically based grammar (15 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 10**

Discuss fully the behaviorist versus the nativist controversy with regards to language acquisition. [

**25 MARKS]**

### **QUESTION 11**

Compare and contrast the Yes/No inversion with the TAG question in siSwati, focusing mainly on their structure and linguistic function.

**[25 MARKS]**

### **QUESTION 12**

Choose any five of the following and discuss them in terms of siSwati syntax. (Your discussion should involve defining the concept and explaining how it affects siSwati grammar)

- i) Case Frame Preservation Theory
- ii) Theta Theory
- iii) Predication Theory
- iv) Subcategorization
- v) Theta Marking
- vi) Uniformity Theta Assigning Hypothesis
- vii) Projection Principle
- viii) Trace Theory

**[25 MARKS]**