

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2009**

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

**COURSE CODE : AL201/IDE-AL201**

**TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
  - 2. ANSWER 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 IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**SECTION A**

**THE NOUN**

*Answer only one Question from this Section.*

**QUESTION 1**

- (a) With the aid of examples from siSwati explain three major functions of the noun prefix. (6 marks)
- (b) Give a table of Givon's classification of the noun prefix and then explain how it differs from those of both Meinhof and Doke. (14 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 2**

- (a) Explain how the augmentative is formed in siSwati and explain whether such a morphological process is productive or not. (5 marks)
- (b) With the aid of examples explain why the feminine gender marker **-kati** should be treated differently from the augmentative marker **-kati** in siSwati. (5 marks)
- (c) With the aid of examples from siSwati explain the formation of feminine gender using the suffixal morpheme **-kati** and explain whether such a morphological process is productive or not. (10 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 3**

- (a) Dlamini J.V. (1979) outlines several things that the diminutive in siSwati indicates. With the aid of examples discuss any five of these things. (10 marks)
- (b) With the aid of examples explain the palatalization that occurs in the formation of diminutives in siSwati pointing out clearly how this kind of palatalization differs from the palatalization that is common in other languages. (10 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 4**

- (a) What do we mean by action nominals. (5 marks)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss three nominal characteristics and two verbal characteristics of the action nominal. (15 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**SECTION B**

**THE PRONOUN**

**Instructions**

Answer **only one Question** from this Section

**QUESTION 5**

- (a) Define a qualificative pronoun as presented by traditional grammarians. (5 marks)
- (b) With the aid of examples from siSwati explain why linguists such as Sibanda and Mthembu (1996) reject this notion of a qualificative pronoun. (5 marks)
- (c) Using Sibanda and Mthembu (1996) explain how the qualificative can characterize the head noun attributively and predicately. (10 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 6**

Give a table of the two morpheme system of the absolute pronoun and then explain all its characteristics.

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 7**

Give a table of the quantitative pronoun using the stem **-dvwa** and then explain how you have formed it.

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 8**

Give a table of the first position (speaker's proximal) of the demonstrative pronoun and then explain how you have formed it.

**[20 MARKS]**

**SECTION C**

**THE QUALIFICATIVE AND VERB**

**Instructions**

*Answer only one Question from this Section*

**QUESTION 9**

(a) Give a table of the adjectival concord and explain how you have formed it. (15 marks)

(b) Explain how the adjectival concord differs from the relative concord in siSwati.

(5 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 10**

Classify the verb radical on the basis of the feature syllable and then explain the linguistic significance of such a classification.

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 11**

With reference to siSwati explain how the enumerative stems can be used attributively and predicatively.

**[20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 12**

Consider the following stem and then answer the questions that follow:

- khulu
- banti
- ncama
- ncane
- buhlungu
- dze
- dvuna
- dzala
- gugile
- dvuma

- (a) Write down only the adjectival stems. (3 marks)
- (b) Write down only the relative stems. (3 marks)
- (c) Explain how you differentiate the two types of stems. (4 marks)
- (d) With the aid of examples from siSwati explain how we derive relative stems from the following:
- i. locatives formed from the absolute pronoun. (5 marks)
  - ii. copulatives formed from the absolute pronoun. (5 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**