

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER - JULY 2010**

**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 FORMALISM 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

- a) What do we mean when we say a derivational process is productive?  
(5 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss fully the derivation of objective nominals (both instrumental and non-instrumental), explain clearly whether such a derivation is **productive** or not. (15 marks)

[20 MARKS]

#### QUESTION 2

- a) Explain the linguistic function of a noun prefix. (5 marks)
- b) Give all the variant prefixes of class 9/10 and explain how each one of them occurs.  
(5 marks)
- c) With the aid of examples explain, how the **iN-** **tiN-** developed to be considered as real prefixes of this class. (5 marks)
- d) With the aid of examples explain that both morphology and semantics were used in the classification of nouns in Bantu. (5 marks)

[20 MARKS]

#### QUESTION 3

With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss THREE different types of human that are derived from other nouns using prefixes, and TWO different types of non-human nouns derived from other nouns using suffixes. In each case explain if such a process is productive or not.

[20 MARKS]

## SECTION B

### THE PRONOUN AND THE QUALIFACTIVE

Answer ONE Question from this Section

#### QUESTION 4

- a) Traditional grammar distinguishes between a Qualificative and a Qualificative pronoun. Using appropriate examples define each according to traditional grammar. (5 marks)
- b) Show that this analysis of the qualificative and the pronoun is syntactically invalid. (5 marks)
- c) Sibanda argues that “the major function of the Qualificative is to describe and/or modify the head noun by characterizing it in a specific and definite way.” With the aid of examples from siSwati explain how the Qualificative characterize the head noun attributively and predicatively. (10 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 5

With the aid of examples explain how the Possessive is derived from (a) the absolute pronoun, (b) the demonstrative pronoun (c) the possessive and (d) the locative

**[20 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 6

With the aid of examples, explain how the enumerative is used attributively and predicatively.

**[20 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 7

- a) Give two examples of each of the following:  
(i) adjectival stems that are descriptive  
(ii) relative stems that denote colour  
(iii) relative stems that are derived from verbs (6 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples, explain how one differentiates a relative stem from an adjectival stem (2 marks)
- c) Give a complete table of the relative concord, and then explain how you have formed it. (12 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**

## SECTION C

### LINGUISTIC PAPERS AND ARTICLES

Answer only ONE Question from this Section

#### QUESTION 8

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 marks)
  - 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 marks)
- [20 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 9

Givon (1971) gives three different ways in which gender conflict is resolved in Bantu. Using illustrations from siSwati and /or any other language of your choice, discuss how Givon explains the resolution of gender involving the following:

- i) nouns denoting [+ human ]
- ii) nouns denoting [+animate]
- iii) nouns involving a [+ animate] and a [ -human, - animate]
- iv) equi-gender nouns

**[20 MARKS]**

#### QUESTION 10

- 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 marks)
  - 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 marks)
- [20 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 11**

- a) Herbert(1979) points out three “interesting things” that make class 9/10 different in Bantu. With the aid of examples discuss fully the three “things” he mentions.  
(12 marks)
- b) In the same article Herbert also discusses three differences between class 9/10 nouns and other noun classes. With the aid of examples discuss any two of those differences.  
(8 marks)

**[20 MARKS]**