

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER - JULY 2011
B.A DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN
LANGUAGE II

COURSE NUMBER: AL300 /IDE-AL300

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2 HOURS)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL
2. ANSWER 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

There is a controversy surrounding the singular prefix of class 1a (Doke) in siSwati. With the aid of examples discuss fully the two opposite sides of the controversy and then bring forth what you consider to be the true position of the issue. [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

- a) What is meant by the term agentive nominals? (5 marks)
- b) Using appropriate examples from siSwati discuss the formation of any four types of agentive nominals pointing out clearly how each one of them differs from the others. (20 marks)
- [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

- a) Using a classification system of your choice give all the basic noun prefixes and their variants in siSwati (10 marks)
- b) Explain the environment under which each form of prefix is used. (15 marks)
- [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

- a) With the aid of examples explain the differences between **any four** of the following pairs;
- i) nasalization and palatalization
 - ii) an agentive that indicates 'one who does X professionally' and an agentive that 'indicates one who does X habitually'.
 - iii) an objective nominal that indicates 'instrument' and an objective nominal that does not indicate instrument
 - iv) a prefix and a concord
 - v) a suffix and a stabilizer (16 marks)
- b) Nouns can be formed from other grammatical categories. With the aid of examples explain how nouns can be derived from the following grammatical categories.

- i) adjectives
- ii) locatives
- iii) ideophones

(9 marks)
[25 MARKS]

SECTION B

THE PRONOUN AND THE QUALIFICATIVE

Answer ONE Question from this Section

QUESTION 5

- a) With examples from siSwati advance three arguments that support Guma's (1985) assertion that the demonstrative and the quantitative should be treated as Qualificatives rather than pronouns. (10 marks)
- b) Sihlatiya siSwati (1996) reject the Qualificative pronoun. With reference to siSwati prove that the notion of a Qualificative pronoun is untenable. (5 marks)
- c) Sibanda (2006) claims that only the absolute pronoun and the concord should be considered as pronouns. With reference to siSwati explain his line of thinking. (10 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 6

- a) With the aid of examples explain how Dlamini (1979) explains the derivation of the speaker proximal of the demonstrative pronoun (10 marks)
- b) Explain why contemporary linguists reject this way of deriving this type of demonstrative pronoun. (5 marks)
- c) Basing your argument on the analysis presented by Sihlatiya (1996), explain how contemporary linguists explain the derivation of this pronoun. (10 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 7

- a) Give a concise table of the possessive stems derived from the absolute pronoun and explain how you have formed it. (8 marks)

- b) Give one reason why traditional grammarians consider the possessive stems formed from the absolute pronoun as the authentic possessive stems. (2 marks)
- c) Form three possessive stems from each of the following grammatical categories and then explain how you have formed them
- i) Locatives,
 - ii) copulatives derived from demonstrative pronouns,
 - iii) possessives. (15 marks)
- [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

- a) Define the enumerative. (2 marks)
 - b) Explain three important characteristics about enumerative stems (6 marks)
 - c) Give a concise table of the enumerative concord and then explain how you have formed it. (12 marks)
 - d) Discuss fully how the enumerative is used predicatively. 5 marks)
- [25 MARKS]

SECTION C

LINGUISTIC ARTICLES AND PAPERS

Answer ONE Question from this Section

QUESTION 9

- a) With the aid of examples explain why class 1 and class 3 nouns (Meinhof) should be kept separate even though they have identical noun prefixes. (5 marks)
 - b) With suitable examples from Zulu, advance five different arguments that Canonici presents in order to justify the existence of Class 3a in Zulu. (20 marks)
- [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 10

Using Sibanda (1995) prove that the empty category in the subject position is base generated while the empty category in the object position is an NP – trace

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 11

- a) Herbert (1977) enumerates three important things that make class 9/10 nouns unique from all other noun classes in Bantu. Discuss these three important things.
(15 marks)
- b) With close reference to Herbert (1977) explain how the restructuring in the prefixes of class 9/10 nouns in Makonde can be explain.
(10 marks)
[25 MARKS]

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