UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER: JULY 2012

B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: Introduction to the Study of Language II

COURSE NUMBER: AL 112/IDE-AL112

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.
3. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

Section A

SYNTAX

Answer Question 1 and EITHER Question 2 OR Question 3.

QUESTION 1

Consider the following sentence:

a) Miriam knitted the sweater in the bathroom.

i) Sentence (a) is syntactically ambiguous. State at least two (2) meanings for this sentence.

[10 marks]

ii) Draw one (1) complete phrase structure tree for each of the meanings in (i).   [15 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

QUESTION 2

i) Choose one of the phrase-structure trees in Question 1(ii). For this tree, identify one example of indirect domination. Justify your answer.   [7 marks]

ii) For each of the trees in Question 1(ii), passivize the direct object and give the result.

[10 marks]

iii) For each of the results in (ii), explain how passivization removes the ambiguity.

[8 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

QUESTION 3

i) Choose one of the phrase-structure trees in Question 1(ii). For this tree, identify two (2) nodes that are sisters. Justify your answer.   [7 marks]

ii) For each of the trees in Question 1(ii), cleft the direct object and give the result.

[10 marks]

iii) For each of the results in (ii), explain how clefting removes the ambiguity.

[8 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

Section B

SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

Answer any __TWO__ Questions from this section.

QUESTION 4

i) Define truth conditions.   [5 marks]

ii) Does passivizing a sentence change its truth conditions? Why or why not? Use examples in your answer from a language of your choice.   [10 marks]

iii) Does clefting a constituent of a sentence change its truth conditions? Why or why not? Use examples in your answer from a language of your choice.   [10 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

QUESTION 5

Give five (5) examples of speech acts. For each type of speech act, give an example of an utterance that may be used to perform that act from a language of your choice.   [25 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

QUESTION 6

i) Define the Cooperative Principle.   [2 marks]

ii) Give four (4) examples of maxims of conversation.   [8 marks]

iii) For three (3) of the maxims in (ii), describe a situation that illustrates it.   [15 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

END OF QUESTION PAPER