

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION –JULY 2012
B.A. DEGREE**

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

COURSE NUMBER: AL210/ IDE AL210

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
 - 2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
 - 3. CHOOSE ONE (1) QUESTION FROM SECTION B**
 - 4. CHOOSE ONE (1) QUESTION FROM SECTION C**
 - 5. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED

**SECTION A
PHONOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY**

Answer Question 1 and any other question in this section.

Question 1

Kikuyu verb conjugation

The following forms illustrate two verb tenses in Kikuyu. Tones are indicated as follows:

á = high
a = low (unmarked)

A.	Current imperfect	“look at”	“send”
	1. ‘We are V-ing’	torɔɔɔɔɔɔ	totomáɔɔ
	2. ‘We are V-ing him/her’	tomorɔɔɔɔɔɔ	tomotomáɔɔ
	3. ‘We are V-ing them’	tomarɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ	tomatómáɔɔ
	4. ‘They are V-ing’	márɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ	mátómáɔɔ
	5. ‘They are V-ing him/her’	mámórɔɔɔɔɔɔ	mámótomáɔɔ
	6. ‘They are V-ing them’	mámárɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ	mámátómáɔɔ
B.	Current past		
	7. ‘We V-ed’	torɔɔɔɔɔɔ́	totomírɔ́
	8. ‘We V-ed him/her’	tomorɔɔɔɔɔɔ́	tomotomírɔ́
	9. ‘We V-ed them’	tomarɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ́	tomatómírɔ́
	10. ‘They V-ed’	márɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ́	mátómírɔ́
	11. ‘The V-ed him/her’	mámórɔɔɔɔɔɔ́	mámótomírɔ́
	12. ‘The V-ed them’	mámárɔ́ɔɔɔɔɔ́	mámátómírɔ́

a) Identify the following morphemes, ignoring the tone:

- ‘Look at’
 - ‘Send’
 - ‘1st person plural subject’
 - ‘3rd person plural subject’
 - ‘3rd person singular object’
 - ‘3rd person plural object’
 - ‘Current imperfect’
 - ‘Current past’
- (4)

b) Propose an underlying tone for each of the morphemes you identified in (a) above. (8)

- c) Using an Autosegmental analysis account for the tonal differences at the surface level. Support your argument by analysing examples (5) and (8) from the data provided above. (13)

[25 marks]

Question 2

- a) Use distinctive features to formalize the following phonological rules:
- i) The sequence /a/ /i/ is realised a [e] when a morpheme boundary intervenes between them (4)
 - ii) The sequence /a/ /u/ is realised a [o] when a morpheme boundary intervenes between them (4)
 - iii) Using the alpha notation, collapse rules (i) and (ii). (4)
- b) Using illustrations, give a brief description of the following linguistic terms:
- i) Bidirectional assimilation
 - ii) suprasegmental feature (9)
 - iii) Extrametricality
- c) Syllabify the following words:
- i) syllabify
 - ii) naughty (4)

[25 marks]

Question 3

- a) Consider the data below from Ndali, a Bantu language spoken in Tanzania and Malawi, and answer the questions which follow:

SINGULAR	PLURAL	
ululete	indete	reed(s)
ululelenga	indelenga	cock's comb(s)
ulukisi	ingisi	louse/lice
ulupembe	imbebe	horn(s)
uluβafu	imbafu	rib(s)
ulwanda	ijanda	stomach(s)
uluyewo	ijɔgewo	gossip(s)
ulwimbo	ijimbo	song(s)

- i) List the allomorphs of the prefix in the plural forms and account for their distribution. (4)

- ii) Account for the variation of the stem-initial segment in each singular/plural pair, wherever such variation occurs in the data provided above. (8)
- b) Consider the data below from Tagalog:

sulat	'write'
sinulat	'was written'
susulat	'will write'
basag	'break'
binasag	'was broken'
bumabasag	'is breaking'
babasag	'will break'

Describe the process involved in the formation of the following:

- i) past tense;
- ii) present tense progressive; and (6)
- iii) future tense.
- c) According to Trubetzkoy's theory of distinctive oppositions;

"The same phonetic segments distinguished by the same phonetic features can stand in a neutralizable opposition in one language and in a constant opposition in another". Provide evidence to support this statement along with relevant examples. (7)

[25 marks]

Syntax and Semantics

Answer *one question* from Section B and *one question* from Section C. Read the instructions carefully before you start writing.

Section B: Syntax

Question 4

Consider the following sentences :

- (a) What did the journalists say that the thieves stole?

Use sentence (a) to answer any five (5) of the following questions.

- i) Draw a complete X-bar theory phrase-structure tree for sentence (a).
[5 marks]
- ii) Define the X-bar schema. Identify three (3) examples in sentence (a).
[5 marks]
- ii) Define predicate-argument structure. Give one (1) example of a predicate-argument structure from sentence (a) and identify all of its thematic roles.
[5 marks]
- iv) Define V-to-I movement. How many examples of V-to-I movement occur in sentence (a)? Identify any such examples.
[5 marks]
- (v) Define a complement. How many examples of complements occur in sentence (a). Identify any such examples.
[5 marks]
- (vi) Define subject-verb inversion. How many examples of subject-verb inversion occur in sentence (a). Identify any such examples.
[5 marks]
- vii) Define an agent. How many examples of agents occur in sentence (a). Identify any such examples.
[5 marks]

[25 marks]

Question 5

Consider the following sentence (b):

(b) Who did Theodore think bought the dumpling at the shop?

Use sentence (b) to answer any five (5) of the following questions.

i) Draw a complete X-bar theory phrase-structure tree for sentence (a).
[5 marks]

ii) Define IP. Give two (2) examples of IP from sentence (b). Justify your choices.
[5 marks]

iii) Define a discontinuous dependency. Give one example of a discontinuous dependency from sentence (b). Justify your choice. [5 marks]

iv) Define I-to-C movement. How many examples of I-to-C movement occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

v) Define thematic roles. Give two (2) examples of thematic roles from sentence (b). Justify your choices. [5 marks]

vi) Define a head. How many examples of heads occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

vii) Define a specifier. How many examples of specifiers occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

[25 marks]

Section C: Semantics and Information Structure

Question 6

Define five (5) of the terms in (a)-(g). For each of the five (5), give two (2) examples from two (2) languages of your choice.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| a) new information | [5 marks] |
| b) denotation | [5 marks] |
| c) definiteness | [5 marks] |
| d) truth conditions | [5 marks] |
| e) reference | [5 marks] |
| f) paraphrase | [5 marks] |
| g) comment | [5 marks] |

[25 marks]

Question 7

Define five (5) of the terms in (h)-(n). For each of the five (5), give two (2) examples from two (2) languages of your choice.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| h) connotation | [5 marks] |
| i) entailment | [5 marks] |
| j) contradiction | [5 marks] |
| k) referentiality | [5 marks] |
| l) indefiniteness | [5 marks] |
| m) topic | [5 marks] |
| n) old information | [5 marks] |

[25 marks]

End of Question Paper