

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - MAY 2012**

**B.A DEGREE**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE 11  
**COURSE NUMBER** : AL310/IDE-AL310  
**TIME ALLOWED** : THREE (3) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL
2. ANSWER AT LEAST 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 HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE  
INVIGILATOR**

## **SECTION A**

### **THE NOUN**

***Answer at least One Question from this Section***

#### **QUESTION 1**

There is a controversy surrounding the existence of the singular prefix of class 1a/2a in siSwati. With the aid of examples bring forth the two opposing sides of the controversy and go on to bring your own opinion. **[25**

**MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 2**

Nouns can be derived from other nouns using prefixes and suffixes. Using appropriate examples from siSwati discuss fully;

- a) The derivation of proper nouns denoting names of women using three different prefixal formatives and explain whether such derivations are productive or not. **(10 marks)**
  - b) The derivation of common nouns using two different suffixes and explain how productive those derivations are. **(15 marks)**
- [25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 3**

Sibanda and Mthembu (1996) argue that there are three different nominals that can be derived from verbs.

- a) Using examples from siSwati give a concise definition of each type **(5 marks)**
  - b) With reference to siSwati discuss any two different types of agentives pointing out the semantic difference between them **(10 marks)**
  - c) Discuss fully the difference between instrumental objective nominal and the regular objective nominal and explain whether the formation of each of them is productive or not. **(10 marks)**
- [25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 4**

- a) What do we mean by reduplication? **(5 marks)**
  - b) What does the reduplication of nouns indicate in siSwati? **(5 marks)**
  - c) Discuss fully how the reduplication of nouns in siSwati is formed **(15 marks)**
- [25 MARKS]**

## **SECTION B**

### **THE PRONOUN AND THE QUALIFICATIVE**

*Answer at least One Question from this Section*

#### **QUESTION 5**

- a) With the aid of examples from English discuss the difference between the anaphor and the pronominal. (6 marks)
  - b) What is a stabilizer and what is its linguistic function? (3 marks)
  - c) Using a three morpheme system explain the derivation of the absolute pronoun in siSwati. (16 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 6**

- a) Sihlatiya SiSwati (1996) divides the quantitative pronoun into those that indicate completeness and those that are numeral. With the aid of examples discuss briefly each type. (5 marks)
- b) Guma (1978) claims that the quantitative should be considered as a qualificative rather than a pronoun. With the aid of appropriate examples advance any three arguments that support his views. (10 marks)
- c) Give a table of the quantitative pronoun using the numeral stems. (10 marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 7**

- a) Give a traditional definition of an adjective. (3 marks)
- b) Using the traditional grammar approach explain the difference between an adjective and a qualificative pronoun formed from the adjective. (6 marks)
- c) Sihlatiya SiSwati (1996) argues that the qualificative can be used attributively and predicatively. Using the adjective explain four linguistic differences between a qualificative that is used attributively and a qualificative that is used predicatively. (16 marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 8**

- a) Using traditional grammar define the enumerative (3 marks)
- b) Give the four enumerative stems and their gloss. (2 marks)
- c) Using appropriate examples discuss the semantic difference between the /-nye/ of the enumerative and the /-nye/ of the adjective. (4 marks)
- d) Give a table of the enumerative concord and explain how you have formed it. (16 marks)

**[25 MARKS]**

## **SECTION C**

### **LINGUISTIC PAPERS AND ARTICLES**

***Answer at least One Question from this Section***

#### **QUESTION 9**

- a) With the aid of examples from Zulu discuss the structure of the Noun Prefix as presented by Canonici (3 marks)
  - b) Canonici presents four different criteria for determining noun classes in Bantu. With reference to Zulu discuss three of such criteria and show their shortcomings (12 marks)
  - c) Discuss fully how the pattern of concordial agreement proves that the nouns traditionally classified under class 1a/2a actually belong to two different classes (class 1a and 3a). (10 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 10**

- a) Give siSwati prefixes of classes 1 and 3 (Meinhof). (2 marks)
  - b) With the aid of examples explain why these classes should be kept separate in spite of having identical prefixes. (3 marks)
  - c) Discuss fully the arguments Givon brings forth to prove that class 1 is a later creation. (20 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

#### **QUESTION 11**

- a) With the aid of examples from siSwati discuss the four issues Herbert brings forth to prove that class 9/10 is a 'peculiar' class. (8 marks)
- b) Consider the following examples taken from Herbert's article
  - i) (Kikuyu) mundu andu 'person(s)'
  - ii) (Kikuyu) gutu matu 'ears(s)'

Separate the prefixes from the stems of the nouns above and show which prefix indicates singular and which prefix indicates plural (4 marks)

- iii) (Tswana) loleme liteme 'tongue(s)'
- iv) (Tswana) lobala lipaka 'time(s)'

Identify the singular and plural prefixes of the nouns above and explain how the plural prefixes have affected the stems. (4 marks)

v)	(Shona)	rukuni	huni	firewood
vi)	(Yaka)	lusala	tsala	'feather(s)'

Explain how the plural forms of the nouns above have been formed. (4 marks)

vii)	(Kikuyu)	ndegwa	ndegwa	'ox(en)'
viii)	(Kikuyu)	ngombe	ngombe	'cow(s)'

Identify the singular and plural prefixes of the nouns above and explain how Kikuyu native speakers identify whether the noun is used as a singular or a plural noun (5 marks)

**[25 MARKS]**