

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2013
B. A. DEGREE**

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS: BANTU

COURSE NUMBER: IDE AL312

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) QUESTION FROM SECTION B**
 - 4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.**

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

SECTION A

Choose two questions from this section

Question 1

- a) The following scholars/recorders made significant contributions to Bantu linguistic studies. Give one major contribution by each one of them:
- i) Egyptian sources;
 - ii) Father Andre Fernandez;
 - iii) Father Pedro Dias, S.J.;
 - iv) Giacinto Bruciotto; (14 marks)
 - v) John Bennie;
 - vi) James Bryant; and
 - vii) Father Cardoso.
- b) With the aid of examples, briefly explain what a Proto-language is. (5 marks)
- c) Evaluate Boyce's contribution to the study of language as contained in the introduction to Archbell's *Grammar of the Bechuana Language*. (6 marks)

[25 marks]

Question 2

- a) Brusciotto (1659) made reference to 'articles', 'principtions', 'case system', and 'declensions' in his description of KiKongo. Briefly discuss his motivation for the use of these terms and state the place of each of the terms in modern Bantu linguistic analysis. (12 marks)
- b) Critically evaluate the contributions made by the earliest recorders of Bantu terms, by any two sources. (6 marks)
- c) The term 'Bantu' could be used ethnologically or linguistically. Briefly discuss. (5 marks)
- d) Name any four daughter languages of Bantoid according to Greenberg's classification of African languages. (2 marks)

[25 marks]

Question 3

Discuss the contributions made to Bantu linguistic studies by J.W Appleyard.

[25 marks]

Question 4

Discuss Guthrie's classification of Bantu languages and show the position of siSwati in this classification.

[25 marks]

SECTION B

Choose two questions from this section

Question 5

- a) Draw family tree diagrams to represent Richard Lepsius's classification of African languages. (10 marks)
- b) List ten of the characteristics which Lepsius followed in his classification of Bantu languages. (15 marks)

[25 marks]

Question 6

Discuss

- i) Five ways in which the phonological characteristics of the Nguni groups of languages are different from those of the Sotho group.
- ii) Five ways in which the grammatical characteristics of the two groups of languages are different.

[25 marks]

Question 7

- a) Give your opinion regarding J. Torrend's classification of South African Bantu languages. (5 marks)
- b) According to Doke and Cole (1961), Andrew Sparrman (1772-1776) observed that 'Hottentots use clicks, and distinguished them from Bantu in that Bantu languages do not use clicks'. Critically, evaluate the above statement. (4 marks)
- c) Briefly discuss two reasons why Greenberg rejected the typological classification of languages. (6 marks)

d) Briefly discuss how each of the following scholars classified the languages of “South Africa”:

i) W. H. Bleek

(10 marks)

ii) H. Lichtenstein

[25 marks]

Question 8

Discuss and critically evaluate Doke’s classification of the Southern Bantu languages.

[25 marks]