

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - DEC. 2013
B.A DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE 1

COURSE NUMBER: AL211 /IDE-AL211

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 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 at least one Question from this Section.

QUESTION 1

- a) What do we mean by noun classification? Give appropriate examples (5 marks)
 - b) With the aid of examples, explain that both morphology and semantics were used in the classification of nouns in Bantu. (6 marks)
 - c) Using siSwati as your examples, give Givon’s classification of the noun prefixes and explain how this classification is both similar to and different from that of Doke (14 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 2

A vowel sequence is not allowed in siSwati. With the aid of examples, explain four different ways in which siSwati deals with a situation where a vowel sequence occurs in a word.

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

- a) What are agentive nominals? Give examples of two different types of agentive nominal. (4 marks)
 - b) What are objective nominals? Give examples of two different types of objective nominals (4 marks)
 - c) What are action nominals? (2 marks)
 - d) With reference to siSwati discuss the formation of any three types of agentive nominals (15 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 4

- a) Give the basic prefixes of the following noun classes
 - i) class 1/2
 - ii) class 3/4
 - iii) class 9/10
 - iv) class 14
 - v) class 15

(10 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss the distribution of the basic prefixes and their variants that are found in the following
 - i) class 1/2
 - ii) class 14
 - iii) class 15

(6 marks)

- c) Discuss fully the semantic content of the following noun classes in siSwati
 - i) Class 1 /2
 - ii) Class 5/6
 - iii) Class 9/10

(9 marks)
[25 MARKS]

SECTION B

THE PRONOUN

Answer at least one Question from this Section.

QUESTION 5

- a) Define an absolute pronoun. (5 marks)
 - b) Give a table of the three morpheme system of the absolute pronoun and then explain how you have formed it (20 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 6

- a) With the aid of examples from siSwati give a traditional definition of a Qualificative pronoun. (5 marks)
 - b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, give a traditional definition of a Qualificative (5 marks)
 - c) Explain why synchronic linguists reject these definitions (5 marks)
 - d) Using examples from your language give a table of the formation of the three morpheme system of the absolute pronoun and explain how you have formed it. (10 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 7

- a) Give a siSwati term given by traditional grammarians for the quantitative pronoun (5 marks)
 - b) What term does Sihlatiya SiSwati (1996) give for this kind of pronoun and explain why it opts for a different term. (5 marks)
 - c) Discuss fully the stems of this pronoun. (3 marks)
 - d) Using the stem **-dvwa** give a concise table of the quantitative pronoun and explain how you have formed it. (12 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

SECTION C
THE QUALIFICATIVE

Answer at least one Question from this Section

QUESTION 8

- a) Name the two important components of a qualificative (2 marks)
- b) With the aid of examples from the possessive give a traditional definition of a qualificative (5 marks)
- c) With the aid of examples from the possessive give a traditional definition of a qualificative pronoun (5 marks)
- d) Explain why modern linguists reject the existence of a qualificative pronoun (3 marks)
- e) Using the adjective to illustrate your answer, discuss how the qualificative can be used attributively and predicatively. (10 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 9

- a) Using traditional Grammar, define an adjective and give appropriate examples. (5 marks)
- b) Give six descriptive adjectival stems. (3 marks)
- c) Give six adjectival numeral stems. (3 marks)
- d) Explain the difference between the *-nye* which is an adjectival stem and the *-nye* which is an enumerative stem. (2 marks)
- e) Using Givon's classification, give a table of adjectival concord and then explain how you have formed it. (12 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 10

- a) Using Sibanda and Mthembu's (1996) approach, define the enumerative. (5 marks)
- b) Tabulate the enumerative concord from class 1/2 to class 15 and then explain how you have formed it. (10 marks)
- c) Discuss fully the use of the enumerative attributively and predicatively (10 marks)

[25 MARKS]