

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - MAY 2014

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.

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SECTION A**THE NOUN**

Answer at Least One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 1

- a) What do we mean by noun classification? (5 marks)
- b) Explain why it is argued that noun classification was based on both morphology and semantics. (5 marks)
- c) Give a table of siSwati noun prefixes using Meinhof's classification and then explain the advantages it has over those of both Doke and Givon. (15 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

- a) What do we mean by reduplication? (5 marks)
- b) Using examples from a language of your choice explain the difference between full and partial reduplication. (5 marks)
- c) With the aid of examples, discuss fully the reduplication that occurs in siSwati nouns explaining clearly what it means and how it is done. (15 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

- a) What do we mean by the term nominalization? (5 marks)
- b) With reference to siSwati discuss fully the formation of two different types of objective nominals, pointing out the characteristic of each type. Also explain how productive the formation of each type is. (20 mark)

[25 MARKS]**QUESTION 4**

There is a controversy surrounding the singular prefix of class 1a/2a in siSwati. With the aid of examples discuss this controversy and then give your learned opinion on it.

[25 MARKS]**SECTION B****THE PRONOUN AND THE QUALIFICATIVE**

Answer at least One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 5

- a) Using English examples explain the traditional definition of a pronoun. (5 marks)
- b) Using English examples show that this traditional definition of a pronoun is not valid. (5 marks)
- c) Using appropriate examples prove that the coexistence of the pronoun and its co-referent noun is not a redundant feature in siSwati.(5 marks)

- d) With the aid of examples explain the differentiate between a qualificative and an a qualificative pronoun as presented by traditional grammarians (5 marks)
- e) With the aid of examples explain why contemporary linguists reject this approach. (5 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 6

- a) Using Doke (1937) define the absolute pronoun. Give appropriate examples. (5 marks)
- b) Explain the use and significance of a stabilizer (5 marks)
- c) Give a table of the three morpheme system of the absolute pronoun and explain how you have formed it (15 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 7

- a) Using traditional grammar define the adjective. Give appropriate examples (5 marks)
- b) With reference to siSwati give a concise classification of adjectival stems. (5 marks)
- c) Give a table of the adjectival concord and explain how you have formed it. (15 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)
- e) Sihlatiya SiSwati (1996) argues that the qualificative can be used attributively and predicatively. Explain how the enumerative is used both attributively and predicatively in siSwati. (5 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**

SECTION C

LINGUISTIC PAPERS AND ARTICLES

Answer at least One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 9

- a) Canonici (1989) presents four different criteria for determining noun classes in Bantu. With reference to Zulu discuss three of his criteria and show their shortcomings (15 marks)
- b) 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 Givón (1971) brings forth to prove that class 1 is a later creation (20 marks)
[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 11

With reference to Herbert article (1979) prove that in languages where the singular and plural forms of class 9/10 nouns are identical the nasal is a prefix. **[25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 12

- a) With the aid of examples explain what is meant by compounding (5 marks)
- b) With reference to siSwati explain the two important observations made by Kunene with regards to siSwati compounds (5 marks)
- c) Using Sibanda (1995) discuss the formation of the following types of compounds in siSwati
- i) The synthetic compound (5 marks)
 - ii) The apposition compounds (5 marks)
 - iii) The izafet (5 marks)
- [25 MARKS]**