

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2015
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 BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A
PHONOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY

Answer Question 1 and any other question from this section

Question 1

- a) Study the Lamba data given below and answer the questions that follow:

Underlying representation	Surface representation
1. iN-βeβa	imbeβa “mouse”
2. iN-loβo	indoβo “hook”

- i) Account for the difference in the stem-initial segment in [imbeβa] and /iN-βeβa/ in (1) and between [indoβo] and /iN-loβo/ in (2) above.
(6 marks)
- b) Explain how the process of homorganic nasal assimilation operated in the derivation of the surface representation from the underlying representation in Lamba.
(4 marks)
- c) Using relevant examples, explain the following linguistic terms and concepts:
- i) Prosodic feature
 - ii) Cavity feature
 - iii) Phonotactics (15 marks)
 - iv) Onset first principle
 - v) Extrametricality

[25 marks]

Question 2

- a) Determine and write down the distinctive feature(s) which differentiate(s) the sound segments in each of the following pairs:
- a. [n, d]
 - b. [n, m]
 - c. [l, r]
 - d. [e, o] (8 marks)
 - e. [u, w]
 - f. [b, β]
 - g. [t, ts]
 - h. [k, x]
- b) Use distinctive features to formalize the following phonological rules:

- i) When two non-labial high vowels follow each other the non-labial glide is inserted between them. (4 marks)
- ii) When two labial high vowels follow each other the labial glide is inserted between them. (4 marks)
- iii) Using the alpha notation, collapse rules (i) and (ii). (5 marks)

c) Assign a morphological tree structure to each of the following words:

- iv) Predominate
- v) Assign (4 marks)

[25 marks]

Question 3

- a) Each of the languages below illustrates a different kind of pattern of word stress. Stress is indicated by either an acute accent mark or a grave accent over the vowel of the syllable that is stressed. Describe (in words) the stress pattern of each language.

1. Latin

- | | | | |
|--------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| (i) | véri:ta:s | 'truth' | |
| (ii) | hóminem | 'man (accusative case)' | |
| (iii) | dí:kere | 'to speak' | |
| (iv) | diksísti | 'you spoke' | |
| (v) | míttutur | 'he was sent' | (5 marks) |
| (vi) | mittúntur | 'they were sent' | |
| (vii) | veritá:tem | 'truth (accusative case)' | |
| (viii) | amí:cus | 'friend' | |

2. Araucanian

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| tipá:nto | 'year' | |
| wulé | 'tomorrow' | |
| elúmuyù | 'give us' | (4 marks) |
| elúaènew | 'he will give me' | |
| kimúbalùwulèy | 'he pretended not to know' | |

3. Mpakwiti

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|
| (i) | thú?u | |
| (ii) | pá:na | |
| (iii) | kálipwa | |
| (iv) | dré:gwati | (4 marks) |
| (v) | bwá?a | |
| (vi) | ʔúnuwàna | |

(vii) máguʔi:ni

- b) If the word below existed in each of the three languages in (3 (a)), which stress pattern would you assign in each case?

[bima:dofaku:]

(3 marks)

- c) The data below indicates that speakers of Bakwiri play a linguistic game to disguise their speech.

	Normal	Disguised	Gloss
1.	mòkò	kòmò	'plantain'
2.	lówá	wáló	'excrement'
3.	kwélí	líkwé	'death'
4.	kóndì	ndífkò	'rice'
5.	liyé	yèlí	'stone'
6.	lùùṅgá	ṅgààlú	'stomach'
7.	zééyá	yáázé	'burn'

- i) Formulate rules that determine how the game is played. (4 marks)
- ii) Using an Autosegmental analysis, show how your analysis works to transform [lùùṅgá] into ṅgààlú. (5 marks)

[25 marks]**Question 4**

Consider the following data from Latin

1. agrico-la aqu-am vide-t.
2. cib-um agrico-la vide-t.
3. agrico-la hort-um vide-t.
4. av-us cib-um vide-t.
5. avuncul-us av-um adjuva-t.
6. fili-a hort-um ama-t.
7. vacc-a aqu-am bibi-t.
8. hirc-us cib-um edi-t.
9. vitul-um av-us adjuva-t.
10. vacc-a vitul-um pari-t.

-us *masculine nominative sg.*
 -um *masculine accusative sg.*
 -a *feminine nominative sg.*
 -am *feminine accusative sg.*

pull 'chick'
 aqu 'water'
 bibi 'drink'
 hirc 'goat'

vacc 'cow'
 vitul 'calf'
 hort 'garden'
 cib 'food'

-t *past tense marker*
vide 'see'
lava 'wash'
ama 'love'

pari 'bear'
fili 'daughter'
avuncul 'uncle'
oscula 'kiss'

agricol 'farmer'
av 'grandfather'
adjuva 'help'
edi 'eat'

a) Give the meanings of sentence (1) to (10).

(10 marks)

b) Write the following words in phonetic notation and split each phonetically transcribed word into syllables:

- (i) articulation
- (ii) acknowledgement
- (iii) after thought
- (iv) affectionately
- (v) white wash

(15 marks)

[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 5

- i) Give one (1) example of a transitive declarative sentence (a sentence that is used to make a statement). [1 mark]

- ii) Use the sentence you gave in (i) to form a constituent question which questions the subject. [2 marks]

- iii) Use the sentence you gave in (i) to form a constituent question which questions the direct object. [2 marks]

- iv) Draw a complete X-bar theoretic phrase structure tree for each of the example sentences you gave in (i)-(iii). Indicate all instances of movement. [20 marks]

[Total: 25 marks]

Question 6

- i) Give one (1) example of a sentence with an embedded clause in English. [2 marks]

- ii) Draw a complete X-bar theoretic phrase structure tree for the example you gave in (i). Indicate all instances of movement. [10 marks]

- iii) Use the sentence you gave in (i) to form a yes-no question. [2 marks]

- iv) Identify all the grammatical relations in the example you gave in (i). [6 marks]

v) Using the tree you drew in (iii), identify one (1) example of each of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| a) complementizer phrase | [1 mark] |
| b) inflectional phrase | [1 mark] |
| d) specifier | [1 mark] |
| e) complement | [1 mark] |
| f) head | [1 mark] |

[Total: 25 marks]

Section C: Semantics and Information Structure

Question 7

Give one (1) example of each of the following from any language except English. Justify your choice of examples. Do not use examples from any textbook.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a) referential information that is also definite | [5 marks] |
| b) referential information that is also indefinite | [5 marks] |
| c) contrastive information that is also a comment | [5 marks] |
| d) new information that is also definite | [5 marks] |
| e) old information that is also a topic | [5 marks] |

[Total: 25 marks]

Question 8

i) Define each of the following terms. For each term, state how it may be encoded in any language of your choice. Do not use examples from any textbook.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| a) definiteness | [6 marks] |
| b) indefiniteness | [6 marks] |
| c) old information | [6 marks] |
| d) new information | [6 marks] |

[24 marks + 1 style mark = 25 marks total]

End of Question Paper