UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER: JULY 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

In Southern Kongo, a Bantu language spoken in Angola, the segments [t, s, z] are respectively in complementary distribution with [tʃ, ʃ, ʒ] as shown in the following words:

[tobola]	'to bore a hole'	[tʃina]	'to cut'
[tanu]	'five'	[tʃiba]	'banana'
[kesoka]	'to be cut'	[nkoʃi]	'lion'
[kasu]	'emaciation'	[nselele]	'termite'
[kunezulu]	'heaven'	[aʒimola]	'alms'
[nzwetu]	'our'	[lolonʒi]	'to wash house'
[zevo]	'then'	[zenga]	'to cut'
[ʒima]	'to stretch]		

a)   State the distribution of each pair of segments given below:

     [t]   [tʃ]
     [s]   [ʃ]   (6 marks)
     [z]   [ʒ]

b)   Which phones should be used as basic phoneme for each pair? State the reason for your choice.   (8 marks)

c)   State, in words, one phonological rule that will derive all the phonetic segments from their phonemes. Do not state a separate rule for each phoneme, but a general rule for all three phonemes you listed in (b) above.   (4 marks)

d)   Formalize the rule you stated in (c) above with the use of distinctive features.
                                                                          (7 marks)

                                                                          [25 Marks]

Question 2

a)   Consider the data below from Ndali, a Bantu language spoken in Tanzania and Malawi, and answer the questions which follow:

SINGULAR	PLURAL	
ululéte	indete	reed(s)
ululeleŋga	indeleŋga	cock's comb(s)
ulukisi	iŋgisi	louse/lice

SECTION A

PHONOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY

Answer Question 1 and any other question from this section

Question 1

In Southern Kongo, a Bantu language spoken in Angola, the segments [t, s, z] are respectively in complementary distribution with [ʧ, ʃ, ʒ] as shown in the following words:

[tobola]	'to bore a hole'	[ʧina]	'to cut'
[tanu]	'five'	[ʧiba]	'banana'
[kesoka]	'to be cut'	[nkoʃi]	'lion'
[kasu]	'emaciation'	[nselele]	'termite'
[kunezulu]	'heaven'	[aʒimola]	'alms'
[nzwetu]	'our'	[lolonʒi]	'to wash house'
[zevo]	'then'	[zenga]	'to cut'
[ʒima]	'to stretch]		

a) State the distribution of each pair of segments given below:

[t]   [ʧ]
[s]   [ʃ]
[z]   [ʒ]   (6 marks)

b) Which phones should be used as basic phoneme for each pair? State the reason for your choice.   (8 marks)

c) State, in words, one phonological rule that will derive all the phonetic segments from their phonemes. Do not state a separate rule for each phoneme, but a general rule for all three phonemes you listed in (b) above.   (4 marks)

d) Formalize the rule you stated in (c) above with the use of distinctive features.
                                                                   (7 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 2

a) Consider the data below from Ndali, a Bantu language spoken in Tanzania and Malawi, and answer the questions which follow:

SINGULAR	PLURAL	
ululete	indete	reed(s)
ululeŋga	indeleŋga	cock's comb(s)
ulukisi	iŋgisi	louse/lice

ulupembe	imbebe	horn(s)
uluβafu	imbafu	rib(s)
ulwanda	iɲanda	stomach(s)
uluyewo	iɲdʒewo	gossip(s)
ulwimbo	iɲimbo	song(s)

i)   List the allomorphs of the prefix in the plural forms and account for their distribution.

(4 marks)

ii) Account for the variation of the stem-initial segment in each singular/plural pair, wherever such variation occurs in the data provided above.   (8 marks)

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

(i)   gentlemanly
(ii)   boyish
(iii) after thought   (13 marks)
(iv)   stone age cave dweller
(v)   singer

[25 marks]

Question 3

Consider the following forms from Diegueño spoken in Baja California, and then answer the questions that follow:

1.	ʔaːkat	"I cut a long object"
2.	maːkat	"You cut a long object"
3.	aːkat	"He cuts a long object"
4.	ʔətʃuːkat	"I bite off"
5.	mətʃuːkat	"You bite off"
6.	tʃuːkat	"He bites off"
7.	mətuːkat	"You cut into chunks"
8.	tuːkat	"He cuts into chunks"
9.	ʔaːmar	"I cover a long object'
10.	maːmalʸ	"You weep"
11.	mətʃuːxʷar	"You chew"
12.	tʃuːkʷar	"He makes a speech"
13.	ʔətuːmar	"I cover a chunky object"
14.	ʔətalʸ	"My mother"
15.	mətalʸ	"Your mother"
16.	ʔətalʸtʃ	"Our mother"
17.	mətalʸtʃ	"Your (plural) mother"

(a) Give the Diegueño morpheme which corresponds to the following English translation:

i)   I;
ii)   you (singular);
iii)   he;
iv)   cut a long object;
v)   cover a long object;
vi)   cut into chunks;
vii)   make(s) a speech;   (15 marks)
viii)   cover;
ix)   weep;
x)   chew;
xi)   mother;
xii)   my;
xiii)   our
xiv)   your (plural);
xv)   bite off.

(b) State one phonological rule that will derive the following surface structures from their basic structures: (4 marks)

i)   ʔətʃuːkat   "I bite off"
ii) mətalʸ   "Your mother"

(c) How would you say the following in Diegueño?

i)   He chews
ii)   I make a speech   (6 marks)
iii)   You cover a long object

[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) Draw a complete X-bar theoretic phrase structure tree for the sentence you gave in (i).
                                                                                    [8 marks]

iii) Define each of the following and identify one (1) example of it in the tree you drew for (i).

   a) Head-to-Head Movement
   b) Specifier
   c) Complement
   d) Head   [16 marks]

                                                                      [Total: 25 marks]

Question 6

i) Give one (1) example in English of a sentence that contains a discontinuous dependency.   [2 marks]

ii) Draw a complete X-bar theoretic phrase structure tree for the example you gave in (iii).
                                                                                    [8 marks]

iii) Indicate the discontinuous dependency in the tree you drew in (ii) and explain why it is a discontinuous dependency.   [7 marks]

iv) Show how four (4) of the phrases in the tree you drew for (i) are examples of the X-bar schema.   [8 marks]

                                                                      [Total: 25 marks]

Section C: Semantics and Information Structure

Question 7

i) Define each of the following terms and give two (2) examples of each from two (2) different languages of your choice. Do not use examples from any textbook.

       a) Referentiality   [7 marks]
       b) Definiteness   [7 marks]
       c) Contrast   [7 marks]

ii) Give one example of information that is both non-referential and indefinite from any language of your choice.   [4 marks]

                                                [Total: 25 marks]

Question 8

For each of the following terms, show one (1) way in which it may be encoded in any language except English. Justify your choice of examples. Do not use examples from any textbook.

       a) Old information   [5 marks]
       b) New information   [5 marks]
       c) Topic   [5 marks]
       d) Comment   [5 marks]
       e) Contrast   [5 marks]

                                                [Total: 25 marks]

End of Question Paper