

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: DECEMBER 2014**

**B.A. DEGREE**

**TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS**

**COURSE NUMBER: AL 311**

**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) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

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

## SECTION A

*Choose two (2) questions from this section.*

### **Question 1**

Describe the contribution of any five (5) of the following to the development of Western Linguistics.

- i. Varro
- ii. *gramma*
- iii. Word and Paradigm Model
- iv. Sumer
- v. Orthography
- vi. Etymology
- vii. Plato
- viii. Monogenesis
- ix. Evangelism
- x. The First Grammarian

[25 marks]

### **Question 2**

Name and define each of Dionysius Thrax's parts of speech. Why do Priscian's parts of speech differ from those of Dionysius? [25 marks]

### **Question 3**

Who was Thomas of Erfurt? Where did he live? Describe four components of Thomas of Erfurt's analysis of the acceptability of sentences. Which philosopher's ideas did he use in his analysis? [25 marks]

### **Question 4**

Describe four (4) stages in the development of the Phoenician alphabet into the Roman alphabet. Include references to approximate dates and places. [25 marks]

## SECTION B

*Choose two (2) questions from this section.*

### **Question 5**

Describe the contribution of any five (5) of the following to the development of Western Linguistics.

- i. Pantañjali
- ii. August Schlegel
- iii. Japanese
- iv. Roger Bacon
- v. Karl Brugmann
- vi. Lindley Murray
- vii. Zellig Harris
- viii. Genetic tree model
- ix. Wilhelm von Humboldt
- x. Agglutinative languages

[25 marks]

### **Question 6**

Describe one of Joseph Greenberg's contributions to linguistic typology. Pick two (2) languages. For each of these languages, state the category of Greenberg's typology that it belongs to. Illustrate your answer with at least one (1) example from each language. [25 marks]

### **Question 7**

Name three (3) scholars or schools of thought from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to today who have contributed to the areas of phonetics and phonology. Describe the contributions of each of these three. How do their ideas about phonology compare with those of the Ancient Greeks and Romans? [25 marks]

### **Question 8**

Name two (3) scholars who studied Indo-European historical linguistics in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Describe the contributions of each of these three. How do their ideas compare with those of Sir William Jones? [25 marks]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**