

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - DEC 2015

B.A DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE 1

COURSE NUMBER: AL211 (Full Time)

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) Using appropriate examples from your language, define the noun morphologically, semantically and syntactically. (9 mark)
- b) Give a table of the basic noun prefixes using Givon's noun classification system. (8 Marks)
- c) Using appropriate examples, give three areas where Givon's classification is different from that of Meinhof (6 marks)
- d) Using appropriate examples, explain any two areas where Givon's classification is similar to Doke's classification. (2 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

'Vowel sequence is not allowed in the formation of words in siSwati'. With the aid of examples, discuss any four mechanisms that siSwati employs in order to avoid vowel sequence in the formation of siSwati words. (25 MARKS)

QUESTION 3

- a) With the aid of examples, explain how the formatives /So-/ and /La-/ can be used in the formation of proper nouns in siSwati and explain how productive the process of forming proper nouns in these ways is. (8 marks)
- b) Explain the formation of common nouns from other nouns by using the argumentative suffix /-kati/ and the gender formative suffix /-kati/. Explain the similarities and differences between these two suffixes. (9 marks)
- c) Discuss fully the formation of both the instrumental and regular objective nominal in siSwati. (8 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

- a) What do we mean by the term 'action nominal'? (5 marks)
- b) It is argued that class 15 nouns in siSwati have ambiguous meanings. With the aid of examples, explain the different meanings associated with class 15 nouns in siSwati. (4 marks)

- c) Discuss fully any four nominal characteristic of the action nominal and four verbal characteristics of the action nominal. (16 marks)

[25 MARKS]

SECTION B

THE PRONOUN

Answer at least One question from this Section

QUESTION 5

- a) Using traditional grammar, define a pronoun. Give examples in both English and siSwati (6 Marks)
- b) Using English, explain that the traditional definition is not correct. (6 Marks)
- c) Using appropriate examples, give a proper definition of a pronoun in English (5 Marks)
- d) It is argued that in siSwati the pronoun can co-exist with its co-referent noun.
- i) What does this mean? (3 marks)
- ii) Using appropriate examples, show the truthfulness of this assertion. (5 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 6

- a) Using Doke (1937), define that absolute pronoun. (5 marks)
- b) Using Givon's classification, give the three morpheme table of the absolute pronoun from the 1st person to class 15, and explain fully how you have formed it (20 Marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 7

Give a table of the speaker proximal form of the demonstrative pronoun and explain how you have formed it. [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

Using the numeral stems give a table of the quantitative pronoun and explain how you have formed it. [25 MARKS]

SECTION C

THE QUALIFICATIVE

Answer at Least One Question from this Section.

QUESTION 9

- a) Using Traditional grammar, explain the qualificative. (5 marks)
- b) Explain why contemporary linguists reject this definition. (5 marks)
- c) Contemporary linguists claim that the qualificative can describe the noun either attributively or predicatively. Using appropriate examples, explain what is meant by describing the noun attributively and predicatively. (5 marks)
- d) Using the adjective as an example, discuss at least four differences between a qualificative that is used attributively from the one that is used predicatively (10 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 10

Explain how the relative stems are derived from the following grammatical categories. Give three examples of each type of relative stems;

- a) Nouns
- b) Demonstrative pronoun
- c) Quantitative pronoun
- d) Verb radicals
- e) Copulatives

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 11

With the aid of examples, explain how the enumerative stems are used attributively and predicatively.

[25 MARKS]