

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER: JULY 2016**

**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. Priscian
- ii. Sanskrit
- iii. Sir William Jones
- iv. Phoenicia
- v. Ferdinand de Saussure
- vi. The Stoics
- vii. Prince Nikolai Trubetskoy
- viii. Aristotle
- ix. Ancient Sumer

[25 marks]

### **Question 2**

Describe the contribution of each of the following to the understanding of phonation (voicing) in the development of Western linguistics:

1. Indian grammarians
2. William Holder
3. Dionysius Thrax
4. Plato

[25 marks]

### **Question 3**

Name four (4) social and cultural motivations for the study of languages and linguistics. Describe how each motivation is or was relevant to such study in one (1) or more societies.

[25 marks]

### **Question 4**

Describe the evolution of the Roman alphabet from its earliest known origins.

[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. Henry Sweet
- ii. Lindley Murray
- iii. Berthold Delbrück
- iv. Jakob Grimm
- v. August Schleicher
- vi. Leonard Bloomfield
- vii. Roman Jakobson
- viii. Joseph Greenberg
- ix. Karl Brugmann

[25 marks]

### **Question 6**

In the development of Western linguistics, study of language and linguistics took place in a number of historical periods. Name four (4) such periods of history. For each historical period that you name, describe events that took place during that period which contributed to such study.

[25 marks]

### **Question 7**

Describe the contribution of each of the following to the understanding of Universal Grammar in the development of Western linguistics:

1. Roger Bacon
2. Wilhelm von Humboldt
3. The Port Royal Grammarians
4. Noam Chomsky

[25 marks]

### **Question 8**

Define the Comparative Method. State what the Comparative Method has in common with etymology as practiced by the Ancient Greeks and Romans. State how the Comparative Method

and etymology are different. Which one is preferred by linguists today? Why?

[25 marks]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**