UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER - DEC 2015

B.A DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER   :   LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE 111

COURSE NUMBER: AL410

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL

2. ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION

3. ANSWERS SHOULD BE ADEQUATELY ILLUSTRATED, BRIEF AND PRECISE.

4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE

5. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES

6. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED

SECTION A

THE VERB

Answer any __TWO__ Questions from this Section

QUESTION 1

a).   What do we mean by classification of the verb?   (1 mark)

b).   Using examples from siSwati, classify the verb radical on the basis of the feature
      syllable.   (10 marks)

c)   Using siSwati examples from both reduplication and passivization, explain the
      linguistic significance of classifying verbs on the basis of the feature syllable.

                                                                         (14 marks)
                                                                         [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

a)   What does the causative extension mean ?   (5 marks)

b)   With the aid of appropriate examples from siSwati, give three other meanings which
     traditional grammarians associate with the verbal extension.   (6 marks)

c)   Using both the paraphrasic structures and the Theta Criterion, prove that the
     causative comes from a biclausal structure.   (8 marks)

d)   Using tree structure diagrams, explain how the causative construction is derived   (6
     marks)

                                                                         [25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

Using the verb **–hamba,** give a table of the verbal conjugation with the following conditions and
explain how you have formed it:

a)   participial mood

b)   remote past tense

c)   continuous

d)   progressive implication

e)   positive   **[25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 4

With the aid of examples from your main language explain any five of the following syntactic concepts;

a)   subcategorization

b)   theta marking

c)   subcategorizational frame

d)   theta grid

e)   Theta Criterion

f)   Case frame preservation principle

g)   Uniformity Theta Assigning Hypothesis

h)   Predication Theory

i)   Projection principle

j)   Stray Affix Filter   [25 MARKS]

SECTION B

THE COPULATIVE

Answer any two Questions from this Section.

QUESTION 5

The copulative in siSwati can be formed from various grammatical categories. With the aid of examples, explain how the copulative is formed from (a) the absolute pronoun (b) the demonstrative pronoun and finally (c) the quantitative pronoun.   **[25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 6

Like verbs, the copulative can be inflected for mood. Give a table of the indicative mood, present tense, positive, progressive implication from the first person to class 15 and then explain how you have formed it.   **[25 MARKS]**

QUESTION 7

a)   Consider the following sentence and then answer the Questions that follow:

Silwane sase singeke sibe yingoti kimi.

i)	Translate the sentence into English	(2 marks)
ii)	Identify the negative marker used in the sentence	(1 mark)
iii)	Identify the implication used and give its name	(2 mark)
iv)	Identify the tense	(1 mark)
v)	Identify the mood	(1 mark)

vi)   Rewrite the sentence, but this time use the exclusive implication (2 marks)

vii)   Translate the sentence you wrote in (vi) above into English. (2 marks)

viii)   Now change the sentence you wrote in (vi) above by making it positive

(2 marks)

ix)   Change the sentence given in (a) above and make it refer to the present
        tense, simple implication, positive   (4 marks)

x)   Translate the sentence you wrote in (ix) above into English (2 marks)

b)   Briefly explain why it is impossible to have the future tense in this mood. (6 marks)

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

From each of the following sentences:

a) identify the copulative used

b) identify the grammatical category from which the copulative is formed and

c) explain how the copulative has been formed in each case

i)	Umsa waZibhebhu ungaka.
ii)	Sengimi kuphela ingwenya lapha.
iii)	Nawe ungaba yingwenya lekini.
iv)	Ngulapha-ke lapho kwafela khona Zibhebhu.
v)	Muhle ngempela phela umshana wami.
vi)	Bafundzi kuphela lababhala loluhlolo
vii)	Kuyobe wakuMtsambana lolosetha kanje.
viii)	Ngangiseyingwenya ngaleso sikhatsi.
ix)	Jesu watsi ngiyindlela neliciniso nekuphila.
x)	Simayemaye sodvwa kule exam.

[25 MARKS]