

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2016
B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: Morphology and Syntax

COURSE NUMBER: ALL104

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

Syntax

Question 1

- (i) Define thematic roles.
- (ii) Name three (3) thematic roles.
- (iii) Use sentences from a language or languages of your choice to illustrate each of the thematic roles that you named in (ii).
- (iv) Define predicate-argument structure.
- (v) Give the predicate-argument structure of the verb in each sentence that you gave in (iii).
- (vi) In which component of the grammar does predicate-argument structure appear? Justify your answer.

[25 marks]

Question 2

- (i) Define grammatical relations.
- (ii) Name two (2) grammatical relations.
- (iii) Give an example of an active sentence and its corresponding passive from a language of your choice.
- (iv) For the examples you gave in (iii), show how the predicate-argument structure of the verb in the active sentence is related to the predicate-argument structure of the verb in the passive sentence.
- (v) Using the examples you gave in (iii), show how grammatical relations are related to predicate-argument structures in both the active and the passive.

[25 marks]

Question 3

(i) Draw two (2) different complete phrase structure trees for the following sentence:

(a) The biologist wrote the encyclopedia in the library.

(ii) Define the Stand Alone Test.

(iii) Apply the Stand Alone Test to the direct object in each of the trees you have drawn in (i) and give the result.

(iv) Define direct and indirect domination.

(v) Identify one (1) example of each in one of the trees you have drawn in (i).

[25 marks]

Section B

Morphology

Question 4

Define five (5) of the following terms. For each term, give one (1) example from a language of your choice. You may use more than one language in your examples.

- (i) allomorph
- (ii) reduplication
- (iii) suppletion
- (iv) cliticization
- (v) simple words
- (vi) morphophonemics

[25 marks]

Question 5

(i) Define the concept of alignment.

(ii) Define prefixes, suffixes and infixes in terms of alignment.

(iii) Give one (1) example each of a prefix, suffix and infix from a language or languages of your choice.

(iv) Explain how morpheme alignment may be affected by factors such as syllabic structure in a language.

[25 marks]

Question 6

(i) Define inflectional and derivational morphology.

(ii) Define three (3) ways in which inflectional and derivational morphology may differ from each other.

(iii) Show how each of the three differences you have defined in (ii) may be used to distinguish a particular inflectional morpheme from a particular derivational morpheme. The morphemes you use may come from any language or languages of your choice.

[25 marks]

End of Question Paper