UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: May 2017

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.

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GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 1

(i) Name and define three (3) thematic roles.

(ii) Give one (1) example of a sentence that uses two (2) of the thematic roles you gave in (i) from a language of your choice.

(iii) Give the predicate-argument structure of the predicate used in the sentence you gave in (i).

(iv) Indicate the associations between the predicate-argument structure you gave in (iii) and the phrase-structure of the sentence you gave in (ii).

[25 marks]

Question 2

(i) Name and define two (2) grammatical relations. Give one (1) example of each grammatical relation from a language or languages of your choice.

(ii) Define valency-changing processes. Give one (1) example of a valency-changing process.

(iii) For the valency-changing process that you gave in (ii), give one (1) example of a sentence in which the process has not taken place, from any language of your choice. Apply the process to this sentence and give the result.

[25 marks]

Question 3

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

(a) The chef from Manzini cooked the spinach in the garden.

(ii) Give two (2) possible meanings for sentence (a) in (i). Indicate which of the trees that you drew in (i) corresponds to each meaning.

(iii) Define the Cleft test.

(iv) Apply the Cleft test to the second NP in each of the trees that you have drawn in (i) and give the result.

(v) Are the clefted sentences which you gave in (iv) ambiguous? Why or why not?

[25 marks]

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 4

(i) Name and define three (3) characteristics of derivational morphology that are used to distinguish it from inflectional morphology.

(ii) Give one (1) example of derivational morphology and one (1) example of inflectional morphology from any language or languages of your choice.

(iii) Show how each of the characteristics that you gave in (ii) may be used to justify your choice of examples in (ii).

[25 marks]

Question 5

Define five (5) of the following terms. Give one (1) example of each term from a language or languages of your choice.

    a) suppletion
    b) lexeme
    c) allomorph
    d) free morpheme
    e) bound morpheme
    f) simple word
    g) complex word

[25 marks]

Question 6

(i) Define the concept of alignment.

(ii) Name three types of affixes. Define each of these affix types in terms of alignment.

(iii) Give one (1) example of each one of the affix types that you gave in (ii) from any language or languages of your choice.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTION PAPER