

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: DECEMBER 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

Define the history of linguistics. Name four (4) cultures that contributed to the history of Western Linguistics from time periods earlier than Medieval Europe. Describe one (1) contribution of each of these cultures. [25 marks]

Question 2

Who were the Stoics? In what time period did they live? Describe the Stoics contributions to the history of Western Linguistics in two (2) separate areas of linguistics. [25 marks]

Question 3

Describe the contributions made to the study of Universal Grammar in the history of Western Linguistics by Roger Bacon, the Port Royal Grammarians and Wilhelm von Humboldt. What do the ideas about Universal Grammar of each of these have in common? [25 marks]

Question 4

Name four (4) separate types of writing system. Define each type that you name. Give one (1) example of each of the four (4) types that you define. [25 marks]

SECTION B

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 5

Who is Noam Chomsky? Name two (2) components of 20th century generative syntax. Compare and contrast 20th century generative syntax with the Word and Paradigm model used by Greek and Roman scholars. [25 marks]

Question 6

Name Dionysius Thrax's parts of speech. Define each of these parts of speech. State how Priscian's parts of speech differ from those of Dionysius Thrax. What is the reason for this difference? [25 marks]

Question 7

Name four (4) scholars that contributed to the study of Phonetics and Phonology in the history of Western Linguistics from time periods later than Medieval Europe. Describe the contributions of each of these scholars. [25 marks]

Question 8

What is Grimm's Law? State nine (9) changes that took place between Proto-Indo-European and Proto-Germanic, according to Grimm's Law. State three (3) generalizations about these nine (9) changes. Why has Grimm's Law been so influential in the history of Western Linguistics? [25 marks]

END OF QUESTION PAPER