

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: May 2017**

**B.A. DEGREE**

**TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF BANTU LINGUISTICS**

**COURSE NUMBER: AL 312**

**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**

Name four (4) scholars whose contributions to the study of Bantu linguistics were influenced by the Hamitic Hypothesis. Describe how the contributions of each of these scholars were affected by this hypothesis. [25 marks]

### **Question 2**

Compare and contrast the systems for analyzing the noun classes of Bantu languages developed by Father Giacinto Brusciotto, John W. Appleyard, and Wilhelm Heinrich Immanuel Bleek. [25 marks]

### **Question 3**

What is the difference between disjunctive and conjunctive orthographies in the writing systems of Bantu languages? Which one did Malcolm Guthrie favor? Give two (2) of his reasons for favoring it. [25 marks]

### **Question 4**

Name three (3) of the early Arab and/or Portuguese scholars who recorded samples of Bantu languages that did not have writing systems at the time. For these three (3) scholars, describe how their writing of these Bantu languages was affected by their knowledge of their first language. [25 marks]

## **SECTION B**

*Choose two (2) questions from this section.*

### **Question 5**

Define the concept of a proto-language. Present Joseph Greenberg's classification of African languages in the form of a tree diagram. Include as many subfamilies as possible. [25 marks]

### **Question 6**

Define case systems, gender systems and noun class systems. For each system, name one (1) language in which it is found. Describe how European scholars have used these concepts in the linguistic analysis of Bantu languages. [25 marks]

### **Question 7**

Describe three (3) stages in the evolution of Shona orthography. Describe the difference between orthography and phonetic transcription in terms of what they are used for. [25 marks]

### **Question 8**

Define Universal Grammar. Compare and contrast the ideas of Clement Martyn Doke and Laura Jo Downing concerning the desirability of using the same descriptive and explanatory framework for the study of all languages, including Bantu languages. [25 marks]

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**