

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER: JULY 2018

B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS (Bantu)

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

Describe how early Arab and Portuguese scholars wrote Bantu languages which did not have writing systems at the time. How were their efforts affected by their knowledge of their first languages? [25 marks]

Question 2

Compare and contrast the systems for analyzing the noun classes of Bantu languages developed by Father Giacinto Brusciotto, S.J., William A. Boyce and Patrick Rowland Bennett. [25 marks]

Question 3

Describe Malcolm Guthrie's two (2) methods for identifying words in Bantu languages. Use examples of both methods from any Bantu language or languages to illustrate your answer. [25 marks]

Question 4

Present Joseph Greenberg's classification of African languages in chart form. [25 marks]

SECTION B

Choose two (2) questions from this section.

Question 5

Describe the contributions to the study of Bantu linguistics of any three (3) scholars who were influenced by the Hamitic Hypothesis. How did the Hamitic Hypothesis affect their ideas?
[25 marks]

Question 6

Define orthography and phonetic transcription. Describe the different uses to which they are put. Describe three (3) stages in the development of Shona orthography.
[25 marks]

Question 7

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

Question 8

Compare and contrast the ideas of Clement Martyn Doke and Laura Jo Downing about the relevance of Universal Grammar to the linguistic study of Bantu languages. Describe how the intellectual contexts in which each of these scholars worked influenced their views.
[25 marks]

END OF QUESTION PAPER