

ALL103/IDE-ALL103 (RESIT EXAM)

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION
JULY 2018**

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

COURSE NUMBER: ALL103/IDE-ALL103

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
 - 2. CHOOSE TWO QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION.**
 - 3. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING, AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES.**
 - 4. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

**SECTION A
PHONETICS**

Answer Question one and any other question from this section

Question 1

- (a) In a spectrogram, there are formants that are not linguistically significant. Name these formants and also what these formants indicate. (3 marks)
- (b) What distinguishes High pitch from Low pitch in a spectrogram? (2 marks)
- (c) Which formant frequencies indicate the following, in vowels? (2 marks)
- i) Height
- ii) Backness
- (d) What is the difference between front and back vowels in terms of formant frequencies? (4 marks)
- (e) What distinguishes the place of articulation in a spectrogram? Discuss, with illustrations from alveolar and velar consonants. (8 marks)
- (f) Compare and contrast the formant structures of the following linguistic concepts: (6 marks)
- i) nasal and laterals;
- ii) stops and fricatives

[25 MARKS]

Question 2

- a) Provide a three term label description of each of the sounds represented by the following IPA symbols:

[t']	[j]	[ɲ]	[dz]	[d]	[ʁ]	[R]	[q]	(16 marks)
Example: [f]		Glottal activity	Manner	Place				
		Voiceless	fricative	labiodental				

- b) Transcribe phonetically the siSwati items which follow:

i)	jova	‘inject’	
ii)	bala	‘count’	
iii)	tsenga	‘buy’	
iv)	phisa	‘brew’	
v)	luhleko	‘laughter’	(9 marks)
vi)	ngena	‘enter’	

- viii) inyama 'meat'
- ix) yosa 'grill'
- x) imfene 'baboon'

[25 MARKS]

Question 3

(a) Give the regular English orthography for the following words, which are given in a broad transcription:

- i) buk
- ii) onli
- iii) smuðən (5 marks)
- iv) θɪŋk
- v) dʒʌmpt

(g) Give a phonetic representation of the following pairs of English words:

- i) show – shoe
- ii) weary – worry
- iii) lose – loose (10 marks)
- iv) spot – Scot
- v) latter – later

(h) i) The sound [ʃ] is associated with different orthographic representations (letters). Provide at least 5 different examples. In your examples, underline the part of the word that represents the [ʃ] sound. (5 marks)

ii) The letter *a* can be pronounced in different ways. Provide a minimum of 5 different examples. For each word you find, indicate the sound that is represented by the letter *a*. (5 marks)

**SECTION B
PHONOLOGY**

Choose any two questions from this section

Question 4

(a) What distinctive feature, if any, do the following sets of sound segments share?

- i) vowels and semi vowels;
- ii) consonants and vowels;
- iii) stops and affricates; (5 marks)

- iv) bilabials and rounded vowels;
- v) liquids and semi vowels

a) Using phonetic cover terms formalize the rules expressed in ordinary English words:

- i) A glide is inserted between vowels.
- ii) A consonant is deleted when it occurs before another consonant.
- iii) Voiceless stops are aspirated in word-initial position. (4 marks)

b) Using distinctive features, formalize the following rules:

- i) A vowel is nasalized when it occurs before a nasal consonant
- ii) A voiceless consonant becomes voiced between vowels
- iii) Voiced stops are phonetically realized as voiceless segments in word-final position.
- iv) A labial consonant is inserted between the vowel /o/ and /u/. (12 marks)

e) Using examples from any language, distinguish between a minimal pair and a near minimal pair. (4 marks)

[25 MARKS]

Question 5

a) In Southern Kongo/Kikongo, a Bantu language spoken in Angola, the non-palatal segments [t, s, and z] are in complementary distribution with their palatal counterparts [tʃ, ʃ, ʒ], as shown in the following words:

[tobola]	“to bore a hole”
[tʃina]	“to cut”
[kesoka]	“to be cut”
[ɲkofɪ]	“lion”
[zeɲa]	“to cut”
[zima]	“to stretch”
[kasu]	“emaciation”
[tʃiba]	“banana”
[zevo]	“then”
[azimola]	“alms”
[kunezulu]	“to heaven”
[tanu]	“five”

i) State the distribution of each pair of segments given below:

[t] – [tʰ]
[s] – [ʃ]
[z] – [ʒ]

(6 marks)

ii) Which phones should be used as the underlying phoneme for each pair? State the reasons for your choice. (8 marks)

b) The following words are all regular plural forms of English nouns:

cats
wishes
languages
pegs
taps
books
stitches
terms
pads

- (i) List the allomorphs of the plural morpheme in English. (3 marks)
(ii) Which allomorph makes the best underlying form? Why? (2 marks)
(iii) State in words the conditioning factors that account for the presence of the different allomorphs of the English plural morpheme. (6 marks)

[25 MARKS]

Question 6

(a) Study the data from siSwati presented below:

dʒilit'a	'take down'
dʷonsa	'pull'
dʒiŋa	'be needy'
dʷuma	'thunder'
dʷuβa	'refuse smth.'
lidʷolo	'knee'
dʷula	'hit heavily'
dʒaβula	'tear'
dʒelela	'offend'
dʒadʒe	'sister'

- i) On the basis of the data, are [b] and [m] separate phonemes or allophones of the same phoneme? If you think they are separate phonemes, provide evidence from the data. If you think they are allophones state their distribution.
(6 marks)
- ii) Based on the same data, are the phones [d^z] and [d^v] separate phonemes of siSwati or are they allophones of the same phoneme. If you think they are separate phonemes, give your reasons. If you think they are allophones state their distribution.
(5 marks)
- (b) i) The sounds [k] and [f] are associated with different orthographic representations (letters). For each sound, provide at least 4 different examples, from any language. In your examples, underline the part of the word that represents the [k] and the [f] sound.
(8 marks)
- ii) The combination of letters *gh* can be pronounced in different ways. Provide a minimum of 4 different examples, from any language. For each word you find, indicate the sound that is represented by the combination *gh*.
(6 marks)

[25 MARKS]