

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER – DECEMBER 2017

B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN
LANGUAGE

COURSE NUMBER: IDE-AI.211

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 ANSWER Four (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL
- 2 ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION
- 3 LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE
- 4 MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES
- 5 ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED

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

SECTION A: THE NOUN

Answer at Least one Question from this Section

QUESTION 1

- a) With the aid of examples, explain two problems that Doke's classification created. (4)
- b) Explain how Doke's classification is better than that of Meinhof (6)
- c) Who was the third linguist to classify nouns? Explain how this linguistic's classification solved the problems that emanated from Meinhof's and Doke's classification. (15)

[TOTAL: 25]

QUESTION 2

- a) With add of example from English, explain what a highly productive rule is? (9)
- b) With aid of examples from siSwati, use one prefixal formative and one suffixal morpheme used in the formation of nouns from other nouns demonstrating how highly productive they are. (8)
- c) With aid of examples from siSwati use one prefixal morpheme and one suffixal morpheme used in the formation of nouns from other nouns and show how less productive they are. (8)

[TOTAL: 25]

QUESTION 3

- a) (i) Name the process used to derive nouns from verbs? (2)
- (ii) How many types of nouns are derived from verbs? State and give a morphological structure of each one of them. (7)

- b) With the aid of examples from siSwati, discuss four different types of nouns derived from verbs indicating human agents. Your discussion should clearly point out the characteristic of each type. Further, explain how productive the rule used in the formation is: (16)

[TOTAL: 25]

SECTION B: THE PRONOUN

Answer at Least One Question from this Section

QUESTION 4

- a) Using Doke (1973) define the absolute pronoun. Give appropriate examples. (3)
- b) Explain the use and significance of a stabilizer (5)
- c) With the aid of examples from siSwati, explain how an absolute pronoun can be used to form copulatives. (5)
- d) Using a three morpheme system explain the derivation of the absolute pronoun in siSwati. (12)

[TOTAL: 25]

QUESTION 5

- a) Name and explain the three deictic positions associated with the demonstrative. (5)
- b) With aid of examples discuss the formation of the demonstrative pronoun, clearly demonstrating the morphological changes that take in the formation. (20)

SECTION C: QUALIFICATIVE

QUESTION 6

- a) What is a relative? (4)
- b) With aid of examples from siSwati, state three types of relative stems. (6)
- c) (i) Explain why the relative concord is the most important part. (2)
- (ii) Give a table of the relative concords and explain how they are formed. (8)

[TOTAL: 25]

QUESTION 7

- a) What is the difference between an alienable and the inalienable possessive? (6)
- b) With aid of example from siSwati state three meanings associated with the possessive. (6)
- c) (i) What is an outstanding feature of possessive stems? Give an example to support your answer (3)
- (ii) Give a table of the possessive stem and explain how they are formed. (10)

[TOTAL: 25]