

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER

JULY 2018

TITLE OF PAPER: MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX

COURSE CODE: IDE-ALL104

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.**
- 4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.**

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

SECTION A: SYNTAX

CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FOR THIS SECTION

QUESTION 1

i) Draw two (2) different complete phrase structure trees for the following sentence:

The soldier shot the thief with a gun. (12)

ii) Give two (2) possible meanings that arise as a result of syntactic ambiguity in the sentence in (i). Indicate which meaning corresponds to each of the trees for this sentence that you drew in (i). (5)

(iii) What are valency-changing processes? (4)

(iv) Explain phrase structure rules. (4)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2

(a) With the aid of examples, explain the following terms;

(i) Language acquisition device (5)

(iii) Universal grammar (5)

(iv) Language innateness theory (5)

(b) With illustrations, explain the differences between functional categories and lexical categories. (10)

[25]

QUESTION 3

a) Read the following sentence and answer the questions that follow:

The students write a test.

(i) Construct a sentence to show how the passive rule is applied on the above sentence. (5)

(ii) Draw a tree diagram to show the sentence you have constructed in (i) above. (8)

(b) Read the sentence below and present it on a tree diagram. (12)

The learners study in a classroom

[25]

SECTION B: MORPHOLOGY

QUESTION 4

Define the following terms. For each term, give 1 example from a language of your choice. You may use more than one language in your examples.

(i) Partial reduplication (5)

(ii) Clipping (5)

(iii) Cliticization (5)

(iv) Bound roots (5)

(v) Morpheme (5)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 5

(a) Define the concept of alignment. (3)

(a) Read the following words and answer the questions that follow:

Unfaithfulness

sandla 'a hand'

(i) In the word 'unfaithfulness' state the prefix, the root and suffixes. (6)

(ii) In the word *sandla* 'a hand' state the prefix and the stem. (4)

(c) Define the following terms, and provide illustrates:

(i) a word (4)

(ii) morphology (4)

(iii) compound words (4)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6

(i) Define inflectional and derivational morphology. (4)

(ii) Define three (3) ways in which inflectional and derivational morphology may differ from each other. (9)

(iii) Show how each of the three differences you have defined in (ii) may be used to distinguish a particular inflectional morpheme from a particular derivational morpheme. The morphemes you use may come from any language or languages of your choice. (12)

[25 marks]