

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY 2019
B. A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS: BANTU

COURSE NUMBER: AL312/IDE AL312

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) QUESTION 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 BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

Choose two questions from this section

QUESTION 1

Discuss and critically evaluate the earliest records of Bantu from the following nationalities.

- i) Arabs
 - ii) English (9 marks)
 - iii) Portuguese
- b) Greenberg based his classification of African languages on three principles. Discuss, with illustrations from any relevant Bantu language(s) any two of these principles. (8 marks)
- c) Guthrie used the empirical method in his classification of Bantu languages. Discuss any two of the linguistic features that Guthrie used in distinguishing Bantu languages from the other languages. (8 marks)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2

Discuss Guthrie's classification of Bantu languages and show the position of siSwati in this classification.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 3

- a) Brusciotto (1659) made reference to 'articles', 'pricipiations', 'case system', and 'declensions' in his description of KiKongo. By means of examples from any relevant languages, critically evaluate this contribution. (20 marks)
- b) Name any five daughter languages of Bantoid according to Greenberg's classification of African languages. (5 marks)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 4

- a) Name the 'scholar' who made each of the following contributions to Bantu linguistics:
- i) The first one to use the term 'class', in connection with nouns.
 - ii) Discovered the 'alliterative' concord in isiXhosa. (10 marks)
 - iii) Produced the first seTswana grammar.
 - iv) Published the first grammatical description of the Ndongo/Kimbundu language.
 - v) Provided the earliest record of a full sentence in Bantu.
- b) Name any two 19th century scholars who distinguished clicks from the other Bantu consonants by means of a number over the syllable. (2 marks)
- c) Litchtentestein distinguished Hottentots from Kaffers (Bantu) by their built, body features, colour, customs and speech. Which of these features would you consider to be linguistic and why? (6 marks)
- d) According to Doke and Cole (1961), Andrew Sparrman (1772-1776) observed that 'Hottentots use clicks, and distinguished them from Bantu in that Bantu languages do not use clicks'. Critically, evaluate the above statement. (7 marks)

[25 marks]

SECTION B

Choose two questions from this section

QUESTION 5

- a) Draw family tree diagrams to represent Richard Lepsius's classification of African languages. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss ten of the characteristics which Lepsius followed in his classification of Bantu languages. (15 marks)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6

- a) Discuss briefly the contributions made to Bantu linguistic studies by the following:

- i) Johann Ludwig Krapf (5 marks)
- ii) James Bryant (5 marks)
- iii) John Bennie (10 marks)
- iv) James Archbell (5 marks)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 7

- a) Give your opinion regarding J. Torrend's classification of South African Bantu languages. (6 marks)
- b) Briefly discuss three reasons why Greenberg rejected the typological classification of languages. (9 marks)
- c) Briefly discuss how each of the following scholars classified the languages of "South Africa":
 - i) W. H. Bleek (10 marks)
 - ii) H. Lichtenstein

[25 marks]

QUESTION 8

Discuss the contributions made to Bantu linguistic studies by Carl Meinhof.

[25 marks]