

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

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS: WESTERN

COURSE NUMBER: AL412/IDE-AL412

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
 2. CHOOSE ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION
 3. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.
 4. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED

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

SECTION A
LANGUAGE CHANGE

Choose one question from this section

Question 1

a) Historical and Comparative Linguistics has been defined as the study of language change (O'Grady and Dobrovolsky 1987:193). With illustrations from English and/or any other Indo-European language, discuss the TRIGGERS of this language change.
(12 marks)

b) Consider the following sentences from Malay and do the tasks that follow:

1. *di padaŋ itu ada sæor ləbu*
There is an ox in the field
2. *saya ada sækor ayam*
I have a hen
3. *saya nampak sækor kuda*
I see a horse
4. *sæoraŋ murid mæŋhadiri sækolah itu*
A pupil attends the school
5. *ada sæoraŋ pelađzar di dalam sækolah itu*
There is one student in the school
6. *di padaŋ itu ada baŋak ləbu*
There are many oxen in the field
7. *saya ada baŋak ayam*
I have many hens
8. *saya nampak baŋak kuda*
I see some horses
9. *ramai murid-murid mæŋhadiri sækolah itu*
Many pupils attend the school
10. *pelađzar-pelađzar sæoraŋ bəlađzar*
Students are studying

(i) Match each of the following notions with a morpheme in the Malay data:

Nouns	Verbs	Articles	
ox	attend	a/one	
field	see	the	(4 marks)
hen			
school			

ii) Briefly discuss the formation of the plural in Malay. Support your points with relevant examples from the data.
(6 marks)

iii) Considering the data above, compare and contrast the article-noun word order pattern in Malay and English. (3 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 2

With the aid of illustrations from any relevant language, discuss each of the following linguistic concepts in relation to language change:

- a) Syntactic borrowing;
- b) Substratum borrowing;
- c) Metaphors;
- d) Taboos and Euphemisms; and
- e) Semantic narrowing.

[25 Marks]

SECTION B
COMPARATIVE RECONSTRUCTION
Choose one question from this section

Question 3

Consider the data below from two American Indian languages and answer the following questions. ([ɨ] represents a high back unrounded vowel).

**Yerington
Paviotso (YP)**

**Northfork
Monachi (NM)**

mupi	mupi	'nose'
tama	tawa	'tooth'
piwi	piwi	'heart'
sawaʔpono	sawaʔpono	'a feminine name'
nɨmɨ	nɨwɨ	'liver'
tamano	tawano	'springtime'
pahwa	pahwa	'aunt'
kuma	kuwa	'husband'
wowaʔa	wowaʔa	'Indians living in the west'
mɨhɨ	mɨhɨ	'porcupine'

noto	noto	'throat'
tapa	tape	'sun'
?atapɨ	?atapɨ	'jaw'
papi?ɨ	papi?ɨ	'older brother'
patɨ	petɨ	'daughter'
nana	nana	'man'
?atɨ	?etɨ	'bow/gun'

- a) Identify each sound correspondence. (4 marks)
- b) (i) For each correspondence you identified in (a) not containing an m or w, reconstruct a proto-sound. (6 marks)
- (ii) On the basis of the position of m in YP, can you predict which sound it will correspond to in NM? If so, state the rule. (2 marks)
- (d) (i) For the three correspondences you discovered in (a) involving m and w would you reconstruct two or three proto-sounds. Briefly explain why. (4 marks)
- (ii) List the reconstructed proto-sounds for m and w and indicate the changes (along with any conditioning factors) that they underwent in the daughter languages. (4 marks)
- (e) Based on the above, reconstruct the following words:
- (i) 'tooth'
 - (ii) 'bow/gun'
 - (iii) 'sun'
 - (iv) 'husband'
 - (v) 'throat'

(5 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 4

Consider the correspondence sets from five Polynesian languages:

	Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian
1.	m	m	m	m	m
2.	n	n	n	n	n
3.	ŋ	ŋ	ʔ	ŋ	n
4.	p	p	p	p	p
5.	t	t	t	t	k
6.	k	ʔ	ʔ	k	ʔ

In addition, note that Tongan has kept the phoneme *h in certain words, which has been lost in all other Polynesian languages. Furthermore, Tongan has lost the phoneme *r from its inventory, which was kept as /r/ or became /l/ in the other four languages:

Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian	Proto-Polynesian
7. h	∅	∅	∅	∅	*h
8. ∅	l	r	r	l	*r

- (a) On the basis of this information and the following data, identify the 5 remaining consonant correspondences: (5 marks)

Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian	
leʔo	leo	reo	reo	leo	‘voice’
ʔuha	ua	ua	ua	ua	‘rain’
lili	lili	riri	riri	lili	‘angry’
hae	sae	hae	hae	hae	‘to tear’
hihi	isi	ihi	ihi	ihi	‘strip’
huu	ulu	uru	uru	ulu	‘to enter’
fue	fue	hue	hue	hue	‘vine’
afo	afo	aho	aho	aho	‘fishline’
vela	vela	vera	wera	wela	‘hot’
hiva	iva	iva	iwa	iwa	‘nine’

	Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian
9.	l	-	-	-	-
10.	ʔ	-	-	-	-
11.	h	-	-	-	-
12.	f	-	-	-	-
13.	v	-	-	-	-

- b) For each of the correspondence sets in (1) – (6) and (9) – (13), reconstruct a proto-sound. (5 marks)

- c) Complete the following comparative table by filling in the missing words: (10 marks)

Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian	
kaukau	—	—	kaukau	—	‘to bathe’
—	mata	—	—	—	‘eye’

—	tafe	—	—	kahe	‘to flow’
laʔe	—	—	rae	—	‘forehead’
—	—	—	—	waʔa	‘canoe’
lanjo	—	—	raŋo	—	‘fly’

- d) Based on the data above, reconstruct the following words: ‘voice’, ‘angry’, ‘vine’, ‘strip’, ‘to tear’.

(5 marks)

[25 Marks]

SECTION C
INTERNAL RECONSTRUCTION
Choose one question from this section

Question 5

Examine the data below from Bahasa Indonesia and do the tasks which follow:

	Simple form	Prefixed form
‘throw’	lempar	məlempar
‘feel’	rasa	mərasa
‘convince’	yakin	məyakin
‘cook’	masak	məmasak
‘marry’	nikah	mənikah
‘chat’	ŋaco	məŋaco
‘sing’	ŋani	məŋani
‘draw a picture’	gambar	məŋgambar
‘send’	irim	məŋirim
‘hear’	dəŋar	məndəŋar
‘write’	tulis	mənulis
‘help’	bantu	məmbantu
‘hit’	pukul	məmukul
‘sew’	dəzahit	məŋdəzahit
‘note down’	tʃatat	məŋtʃatat
‘take’	ambil	məŋambil
‘fill up’	isi	məŋisi
‘invite’	undang	məŋundang

- (i) Use the internal method of reconstruction to suggest what the original form of the prefix might have been. (2 marks)
- (ii) Identify those words whose prefixes have undergone changes and give a step-by-step derivation of the surface forms, to show how they have changed. (14 marks)
- (iii) Identify the words that have retained their original forms of prefixes and give good reasons why they have retained such forms. (9 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 6

a) Examine the following Huli numerals which are given in their basic forms used in counting:

Counting	Ordinal	
tebo	tebone	'three'
ma	mane	'four'
dau	dauni	'five'
waraga	waragane	'six'
hali	halini	'eight'
di	dini	'nine'
hombe	hombene	'eleven'

- i) Reconstruct the original ordinal suffix. [1 mark]
- ii) Identify the words whose suffixes have undergone changes and then give a step-by-step derivation of the surface forms to show why they have changed. [6 marks]
- iii) Identify the words that have retained their forms of suffixes and give good reasons why they have retained such forms. [8 marks]

b) Consider the data on different verb forms (labelled Form A and Form B) in Samoan and do the tasks that follow.

Form A	Gloss	Form B
ʔole	'cheat'	ʔolegia
faʔaee	'put'	faʔaeetia
fua	'weigh'	fuatia
faʔafoi	'send back'	faʔafoisia
gau	'break'	gausia
faitau	'read'	faitaulia
silā	'see'	silafia

utu	'fetch water'	utufia
sio	'surround'	siomia
inu	'drink'	inumia

Use the method of internal reconstruction to do the following tasks:

- i) Reconstruct the original form of the Form B affix. [1 mark]
- ii) Reconstruct the original forms for all the verbs. [5 marks]
- iii) Given that the Form B word for 'close' is /punitia/, can you predict the Form A counterpart? Why? [2 marks]
- iv) From which forms can the base forms be determined? [2 marks]

[25 Marks]

**SECTION D
MISCELENEOUS**

Choose one question from this section

Question 7

The Family Tree Model and the Wave Theory Model are both used in representing relationship between languages. Discuss these two models, providing evidence for each one of them. Which model do you think is more plausible and why?

[25 Marks]

Question 8

With illustrations from any language, discuss the following linguistic terms and concepts:

- i) Implicational universals; (3)
- ii) Agglutinating language; (3)
- iii) Daughter language; (3)
- iv) Phoneme space; (5)
- v) Partial regressive assimilation; (3)
- vi) Haplology; (3)
- vii) Conditioned sound change; (3)
- viii) Prothesis (2)

[25 Marks]