UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
RESIT EXAMINATION PAPER
JANUARY 2020

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION   TO   HISTORICAL   AND COMPARATIVE INDO-EUROPEAN LINGUISTICS

COURSE NUMBER: IDE-ALL303

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.

5. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED

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SECTION A
Choose two questions from this section

Question 1

Rasmus Rask, rather than Jacob Grimm, should have been crowned as "The father of comparative linguistics". Discuss **[25 marks]**

Question 2

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

i)	Lenition;	(3 marks)
ii)	Phonetic unpacking;	(3 marks)
iii)	Metathesis;	(3 marks)
iv)	Phoneme space;	(5 marks)
v)	Partial progressive assimilation;	(3 marks)
vi)	Haplology;	(3 marks)
vii)	Unconditioned sound change;	(3 marks)
viii)	Prothesis	(2 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 3

a) There is no precise number of languages spoken in the world today. With illustrations from relevant examples, discuss the authenticity of this statement.
(8 marks)

b) Briefly distinguish the terms Geneological and Typological classification of languages. (6 marks)

c) Distinguish between Historical and History of linguistics. Support your argument with examples. (6 marks)

d) How does typology contribute to our understanding of language change? (5 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 4

a) Semantics does contribute to language change. With illustrations from any language, discuss the following terms in relation to language change:

i) semantic broadening
ii) semantic narrowing
iii) semantic shift

(15 marks)

b)   Does a proto-language die out and then get replaced by it daughter languages? What, for example, is the nature of Latin and Rumanian?
(8 marks)

c)   Lexical change and semantic change may be said to be related in some way. Briefly state the nature of their relationship.   (2 marks)

[25 Marks]

SECTION B
*Choose **two** questions from this section*

Question 5

Spanish	Sardinian	French	Portuguese	Rumanian	
riβa	ripa	riv	riba	ripə	'embankment'
amiya	amika	ami	amiga	--	'female friend'
kopa	kuppa	kup	kopa	kupə	'cup'
gota	gutta	gut	gota	gutə	'drop'

Now answer the following questions:

a)   Identify and write down the sound correspondences for each of the four items provided in the data.   (5 marks)

b)   For each set of sound correspondences, you identified in (a), reconstruct the proto-sound.   (5 marks)

c)   Wherever, you have reconstructed the same sound for different correspondence sets, justify your reason for doing so.   (6 marks)

d)   According to O'Grady et al (1996), the Proto-Romance word for 'embankment' is /*ripa/. State the phonological processes which took place during the evolution of the words in the following languages from Proto-Romance. If more than one process occurred, name them all in their order of occurrence:
i)   Spanish;
ii)   French   (6 marks)
iii)   Portuguese; and

e)   List the remaining three Proto-Romance words on the basis of your reconstruction of the Proto-Romance sounds in (b) above.   (3 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 6

Examine the data below from Bahasa Indonesia in which the active and passive verb forms are presented and do the tasks which follow:

Active	Passive	
məmbuka	dibuka	'open'
məndapat	didapat	'get'
məɲɟelaskan	diɟelaskan	'explain'
məŋgosok	digosok	'rub'
məmərlukan	dipərlukan	'need'
mənanam	ditanam	'plant'
məŋaraŋ	dikaraŋ	'compose'
məŋurus	diurus	'arrange'
məɲeɟa	dieɟa	'spell'
məŋambil	diambil	'take'
məɲikat	diikat	'tie'
məŋerikan	diŋərikan	'give a fright'
məɲhapuskan	dihapuskan	'wipe'

(i) Use the internal method of reconstruction to suggest what the original active and passive prefixes might have been. (2 Marks)

(ii) Identify those words whose prefixes in the active form 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 the active prefix and give good reasons why they have retained such forms. (9 Marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 7

a) Consider the data provided below from Mbabaram, a language spoken in North Queensland Australia:

*wula	→	lo	'die'
*ŋali	→	li	'we'
*guju	→	ju	'fish'
*guwa	→	wo	'west'
*bamba	→	mba	'belly'
*wuna	→	no	'lie down'
*diba	→	be	'liver'
*gumbi	→	mbi	'penis'
*naga	→	ga	'east'
*ɲulu	→	lu	'he'

i) Some word-final /a/ became [e], some became [o], and some remained unchanged. What were the conditioning factors? (8 marks)

ii) Initial syllables were lost. Did this change take place before or after the changes affecting the final /a/? Explain with relevant examples from the data. (4 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
sila	'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)

c) When might you want to use the method of Internal Reconstruction instead of the Comparative method of Reconstruction (3 marks)

Question 8

a) "There is no precise figure for the number of languages spoken in the world today". Provide evidence to support the authenticity of this statement along with relevant examples. (15 marks)

b) What do you think is the importance to historical linguistics of the fact that Sanskrit, Latin, and Greek were written languages? Would we have been able to make the same advances if they were not? (5 marks)

c) Briefly distinguish the terms proto-language and an attested language. Support your argument with relevant examples. (5 marks)

[25 Marks]