

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

JULY 2005

COURSE TITLE : PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS

COURSE CODE : ENG 403

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. This paper consists of four questions.**
- 2. Answer any two questions**
- 3. All questions carry 20 marks each**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION TO DO SO.

PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS

1. The concept of standard English is a form of control. Discuss. Your discussion should explain the process of standardization of the English language. How does this argument apply to English as an international language? [20]
2. Crystal (1987) outlines a number of possible reasons for switching from one code to another. Using your experiences as a bi/multilingual speaker, discuss the factors responsible for code switching and code mixing in a conversation. [20]
3. In some speech communities, a diglossic situation exists. Discuss in detail the concept of “diglossia” and also outline the likely outcomes of such a situation. To support your claims, draw examples from a diglossic speech community of your choice.

[20]
4. What are the main differences between a language and a dialect? Would you consider your vernacular a language or a dialect? Give reasons for your answer.

[20]