

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

AND

THE INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

MAIN EXAMINATION

2007

TITLE OF PAPER: PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

COURSE CODE: ENG 402

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS**
- 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY 30 MARKS**
- 3. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR GOOD ENGLISH, ORDERLY PRESENTATION AND ORIGINAL EXAMPLES**

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

QUESTION 1

a) The brain is one of humans' most complex organs. Damage to the brain can have serious effect on language development. By outlining the areas in the brain that are hard wired for language, show how damage to them can affect language development?

(15)

b) The following are examples of children's pronunciations of common English nouns. How do they differ from standard adult pronunciation? Are there any sounds or sound sequences that seem to be particularly difficult? What patterns are evident in the children's pronunciation?

(15)

Word	Pronunciation	Word	Pronunciation
Bottle	[baba]	key	[ti]
Butterfly	[b ʌ fai]	duck	[g ʌ k]
Tub	[b ʌ b]	water	[wawa]
Baby	[bibi]	stop	[tɔp]
Tree	[ti]	blanket	[bæki]
Candy	[kæki]	doggie	[gɔgi]
Banana	[næn]	this	[dɪs]

QUESTION 2

Discuss three individual differences that influence second language acquisition. Your discussion should show how these individual differences relate to first language acquisition.

(30)

QUESTION 3

Outline two theories that have been forwarded by linguists in an attempt to explain how language L1 and L2 are learned. Extra credit will be given for a discussion which attempts to compare the theories and state their limitations, if any.

(30)

QUESTION 4

Write brief notes on each of the following;

- experimental studies in child language acquisition
- morphological and syntactic development of child language
- The mental lexicon

(30)