

# **UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

**DECEMBER 2015**

**TITLE OF PAPER: PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLINGUISTICS**

**COURSE CODE: ENG402 / IDE-ENG402**

**TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. This paper has four (4) questions.**
  - 2. Question 1 is compulsory, and it is worth 30 marks.**
  - 3. Choose one other question from questions 2 to 4. Each question is worth 20 marks.**
  - 4. Appropriate use of English will attract credit.**

**This paper should not be opened until permission has been granted by the invigilator.**

**Question 1 (compulsory)**

a) Briefly explain the 5 levels of processing that explain the generation and perception of the speech signal proposed by Denes and Pinson's model (Garman, 1990).

(15 marks)

b) What do you understand by the following?

(15 marks)

i) Language Acquisition Device (5)

ii) The Thalamus (5)

iii) The Critical Age Hypothesis (5)

**[30 marks]**

**Question 2**

Explain how human beings are biologically adapted for language functions (Aitchison, 2008:50; Garman 1990)

**[20 marks]**

**Question 3**

What is 'lateralization'? Discuss any two pieces of evidence that support the claim that language functions are generally lateralized on the left cerebrum.

**[20 marks]**

**Question 4**

Discuss in detail the stages of second language acquisition; then provide advice

how parents and educators may contribute to enhance the acquisition process of a

second language.

**[20 marks]**