

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION
JULY 2017

TITLE OF PAPER: PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

COURSE CODE: ENG402

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. THIS PAPER HAS FOUR (4) QUESTIONS**
- 2. QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY, AND IS WORTH 30 MARKS**
- 3. CHOOSE ONE OTHER QUESTION FROM QUESTIONS 2 TO 4. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 20 MARKS.**
- 4. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE, AND PRESENT YOUR WORK NEATLY.**
- 5. APPROPRIATE USE OF ENGLISH IS ESSENTIAL. CITE RELEVANT AUTHORS WHERE APPROPRIATE.**

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

QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

- a) Describe the processes that occur at the level of the language system when an individual processes the spoken linguistic signal. [10 marks]
- b) What do you understand by the following in relation to language:
- (i) The acoustic level of the "speech chain" (5)
 - (ii) The Filter Hypothesis (5)
 - (iii) The Brain Hemispheres (5)
- [15 marks]

[30 marks]

QUESTION 2

Describe in detail the physiological features and the abstract sensory and language functions of the subcortical structure of the brain called the thalamus.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 3

Discuss the input-output events which describe the processing of the language signal in Garman's (1990) 'Language Switchboard'

[20 marks]

QUESTION 4

What do you understand by the following?

- a) The Language Acquisition Device (10)
- b) Handedness (10)