TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

COURSE NUMBER: AL210/ IDE AL210

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.

2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.

3. CHOOSE ONE (1) QUESTION FROM SECTION B

4. CHOOSE ONE (1) QUESTION FROM SECTION C

5. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
SECTION A
PHONOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY

Answer Question 1 and any other question in this section.

Question 1

Kikuyu verb conjugation

The following forms illustrate two verb tenses in Kikuyu. Tones are indicated as follows:

\[ \hat{\text{a}} = \text{high} \]
\[ \text{a} = \text{low (unmarked)} \]

A. Current imperfect
1. ‘We are V-ing’
2. ‘We are V-ing him/her
3. ‘We are V-ing them’
4. ‘They are V-ing’
5. ‘They are V-ing him/her’
6. ‘They are V-ing them’

B. Current past
7. ‘We V-ed’
8. ‘We V-ed him/her’
9. ‘We V-ed them’
10. ‘They V-ed’
11. ‘The V-ed him/her’
12. ‘The V-ed them’

a) Identify the following morphemes, ignoring the tone:
- ‘Look at’
- ‘Send’
- ‘1st person plural subject’
- ‘3rd person plural subject’
- ‘3rd person singular object’
- ‘3rd person plural object’
- ‘Current imperfect’
- ‘Current past’

b) Propose an underlying tone for each of the morphemes you identified in (a) above.
c) Using an Autosegmental analysis account for the tonal differences at the surface level. Support your argument by analysing examples (5) and (8) from the data provided above. (13)

[25 marks]

Question 2

a) Use distinctive features to formalize the following phonological rules:
   i) The sequence /a/ /i/ is realised a [e] when a morpheme boundary intervenes between them (4)
   ii) The sequence /a/ /u/ is realised a [o] when a morpheme boundary intervenes between them (4)
   iii) Using the alpha notation, collapse rules (i) and (ii). (4)

b) Using illustrations, give a brief description of the following linguistic terms:
   i) Bidirectional assimilation
   ii) suprasegmental feature (9)
   iii) Extrametricality

c) Syllabify the following words:
   i) syllabify
   ii) naughty (4)

[25 marks]

Question 3

a) Consider the data below from Ndali, a Bantu language spoken in Tanzania and Malawi, and answer the questions which follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGULAR</th>
<th>PLURAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ululete</td>
<td>indete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ululelenq</td>
<td>indelenq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ulukisi</td>
<td>ingisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ulupembe</td>
<td>imbebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uluβafu</td>
<td>imbafu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ulwanda</td>
<td>ḫanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uluyewo</td>
<td>ḫdewo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ulwimbo</td>
<td>ḫimbo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

i) List the allomorphs of the prefix in the plural forms and account for their distribution. (4)
ii) Account for the variation of the stem-initial segment in each singular/plural pair, wherever such variation occurs in the data provided above. (8)

b) Consider the data below from Tagalog:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Tagalog</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>write</td>
<td>sulat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was written</td>
<td>sinulat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>will write</td>
<td>susulat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break</td>
<td>basag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was broken</td>
<td>binasag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>is breaking</td>
<td>bumabasag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>will break</td>
<td>babasag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe the process involved in the formation of the following:

i) past tense;  
ii) present tense progressive; and  
iii) future tense. (6)

c) According to Trubetzkoy’s theory of distinctive oppositions;

"The same phonetic segments distinguished by the same phonetic features can stand in a neutralizable opposition in one language and in a constant opposition in another". Provide evidence to support this statement along with relevant examples. (7)

[25 marks]
Syntax and Semantics

Answer one question from Section B and one question from Section C. Read the instructions carefully before you start writing.

Section B: Syntax

Question 4

Consider the following sentences:

(a) What did the journalists say that the thieves stole?

Use sentence (a) to answer any five (5) of the following questions.

i) Draw a complete X-bar theory phrase-structure tree for sentence (a). [5 marks]

ii) Define the X-bar schema. Identify three (3) examples in sentence (a). [5 marks]

iii) Define predicate-argument structure. Give one (1) example of a predicate-argument structure from sentence (a) and identify all of its thematic roles. [5 marks]

iv) Define V-to-I movement. How many examples of V-to-I movement occur in sentence (a)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

(v) Define a complement. How many examples of complements occur in sentence (a)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

(vi) Define subject-verb inversion. How many examples of subject-verb inversion occur in sentence (a)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

vii) Define an agent. How many examples of agents occur in sentence (a)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

[25 marks]
Question 5

Consider the following sentence (b):

(b) Who did Theodore think bought the dumpling at the shop?

Use sentence (b) to answer any five (5) of the following questions.

i) Draw a complete X-bar theory phrase-structure tree for sentence (a). [5 marks]

ii) Define IP. Give two (2) examples of IP from sentence (b). Justify your choices. [5 marks]

iii) Define a discontinuous dependency. Give one example of a discontinuous dependency from sentence (b). Justify your choice. [5 marks]

iv) Define I-to-C movement. How many examples of I-to-C movement occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

v) Define thematic roles. Give two (2) examples of thematic roles from sentence (b). Justify your choices. [5 marks]

vi) Define a head. How many examples of heads occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

vii) Define a specifier. How many examples of specifiers occur in sentence (b)? Identify any such examples. [5 marks]

[25 marks]
Section C: Semantics and Information Structure

Question 6

Define five (5) of the terms in (a)-(g). For each of the five (5), give two (2) examples from two (2) languages of your choice.

a) new information [5 marks]
b) denotation [5 marks]
c) definiteness [5 marks]
d) truth conditions [5 marks]
e) reference [5 marks]
f) paraphrase [5 marks]
g) comment [5 marks]

[25 marks]

Question 7

Define five (5) of the terms in (h)-(n). For each of the five (5), give two (2) examples from two (2) languages of your choice.

h) connotation [5 marks]
i) entailment [5 marks]
j) contradiction [5 marks]
k) referentiality [5 marks]
l) indefiniteness [5 marks]
m) topic [5 marks]
n) old information [5 marks]

[25 marks]

End of Question Paper