UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITURATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER – DECEMBER 2015

TITLE OF PAPER : LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN LANGUAGE 1

COURSE CODE : IDE - AL211

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1 ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL

2 ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION

3 LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE

4 MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES

5 ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE CLOSED

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR
SECTION A: THE NOUN

ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 1

In siSwati, vowel sequence is not allowed in the formation of words.

a) What do we mean by the term vowel sequence? (5)

b) With the aid of examples discuss four different mechanisms that siSwati employs in order to avoid vowel sequence in the formation of words. (20)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

a) With the aid of examples from siSwati, define a noun
(i) morphologically, (3)
(ii) semantically, (3)
(iii) and syntactically, (3)

b) What do we mean by the term ‘noun prefix’? Give appropriate examples to support your answer. (4)

c) With the aid of examples, explain three different linguistic function of the noun prefix. (12)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

a) Give a concise table of Doke’s noun classification. (8)

b) How is Doke’s classification different from that of Meinhof? (5)

c) With the aid of examples, explain two problems that Doke’s classification created. (5)

d) With the aid of examples, explain why class 1 singular nouns should be kept separate from those of class 2 singular even though they have identical prefixes. (7)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]
SECTION B: THE PRONOUN

ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 4

a) Using examples from English, give a traditional definition of a pronoun. (4)

b) Using appropriate examples from English, prove that this traditional definition is not correct. (4)

c) Using English explain fully how the pronoun should be defined. (5)

d) In siSwati the co-existence of the noun and its co-referent pronoun is not a redundant feature. Using any pronoun of your choice, prove that this statement is true. (12)

TOTAL: 25 MARKS

QUESTION 5

a) What is the siSwati term given for the quantitative pronoun by traditional grammarians? (1)

b) What term does Sibanda (1996) give for this kind of pronoun? Explain why it opts for a different term. (6)

c) Give all of the stems of the quantitative pronoun and explain the semantic significance of each. (6)

d) Choose one of the stems given in (c) and give a concise table of the quantitative pronoun, further explain how you have formed it. (12)

TOTAL: 25 MARKS

QUESTION 6

a) Using Doke define the absolute pronoun. (4)

b) How is the absolute pronoun different from all the other pronouns? (4)

c) Define a stabilizer? Explain its linguistic significance. (5)

d) Provide a table of an absolute pronoun displaying the 3 morpheme system, explaining how it is formed. (12)

TOTAL: 25 MARKS
SECTION C: THE QUALIFICATIVE

ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 7

a) How many types of qualificative are there in siSwati? Name them using siSwati language. Gloss your answer. (5)

b) Explain the similarities and differences between the adjectival concords and the relative concords. Use appropriate examples to illustrate your answers. (5)

c) Explain the difference between the /–nye/ which is an adjectival stem and the /–nye/ which is an enumerative stem. (3)

d) Using Givon’s classifications, tabulate adjectival concords and explain their formation. (12)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]

QUESTION 8

a) Define the enumerative. Give appropriate examples to support your answer. (3)

b) Give the four enumerative stems with their gloss and explain their uniqueness. (8)

c) (i) Qualificatives can be used attributively and predicatively. Explain what this means. (2)

(ii) With the aid of examples, explain how the enumerative can be used attributively and predicatively. (12)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]

QUESTION 9

a) Using appropriate examples, discuss alienable and inalienable possessive. (5)

b) With the aid of examples, discuss five different meanings associated with the possessive in siSwati. (10)

c) With the aid of example, give a table of the possessive stems derived from the absolute pronoun and explain how you have formed it. (10)

[TOTAL: 25 MARKS]