TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS: WESTERN
COURSE CODE: IDE-AL311
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
2. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.
3. CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.
4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISM SHOULD BE USED WHENEVER APPROPRIATE.

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

CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 1
(a) With the aid of examples, describe the following types of language classification:
   (i) Alphabetical classification (3)
   (ii) Genealogical classification (4)
(b) Describe two (2) disadvantages of each of the classifications mentioned in (a) above. (8)
(c) Define the following linguistic terms:
   (i) Proto language (2)
   (ii) Monogenesis theory (2)
   (iii) Polygenesis theory (2)
   (iv) Grammatikos (2)
   (v) Grammatike (2)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2
Describe the contributions made by the following scholars to the scientific study of language:
(i) Protogoras (5)
(ii) Panini (5)
(iii) Dionysius Thrax (5)
(iv) Varro (10)

[25 marks]
QUESTION 3
Describe the following theories of language origin:

(i) The sing-song theory  (5)
(ii) The poo-pooh theory  (5)
(iii) The divine source theory  (5)
(iv) Physiological adaptation  (10)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 4

(a) Discuss the contributions made by the Stoics to Descriptive linguistics.  (10)

(b) Discuss the views of Aristotle, Plato and the Stoics on the following;
   (i) Analogy and anomaly controversy.  (7)
   (ii) The nature-convention controversy  (8)

[25 marks]
SECTION B

CHOOSE TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 5
Describe briefly the contributions made by the following scholars in historical and comparative linguistics:

(i) Gottfried Wilhelm Von Leibniz (5)
(ii) J.J. Scaliger (5)
(iii) Johann Von Herder (5)
(iv) Dante (5)
(v) Friedrich Schlegel (5)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6

(a)(i) According to Robins (1997:166), 'Wilhelm von Humboldt is best known in linguistics for popularizing a tripartite language typology, isolating, agglutinative, and flexional, according to the predominant structure of the word as a grammatical unit.' With the aid of examples from any language of your choice, discuss these types. (15)

(b)(i) Describe Grimm’s law. (6)

(ii) Explain how Verner’s law supplemented Grimm’s law. (4)

[25 marks]
QUESTION 7

(a) Discuss how Franz Bopp contributed towards the development of comparative linguistics. (10)

(b) (i) Explain the four (4) fundamental principles used in modern comparative and historical linguistics which were formulated by Rasmus Kristian Rask. (10)

(ii) What are cognates and how are they used in comparative and historical linguistics? (5)

[25 marks]

QUESTION 8

Discuss critically Noam Chomsky's contribution to generative grammar. [25 marks]