UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER - JULY 2018

B.A. DEGREE

TITLE OF PAPER:	**INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS: BANTU**
COURSE NUMBER:	**AL 413 / IDE-AL 413 (SUPPLEMENTARY)**
TIME ALLOWED:	**3 HOURS**
INSTRUCTIONS:	1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
	2. ANSWER ONE QUESTION FROM SECTION A.
	3. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.
	4. LINGUISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND FORMALISMS SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER APPROPRIATE
	5. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.

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LEXICOSTATISTICS AND GLOTTOCHRONOLOGY

Answer Question 1

Question 1

Examine the shared cognate percentage figures for the following ten hypothetical languages:

A									
89	B								
88	87	C							
28	30	29	D						
26	34	30	86	E					
28	27	32	56	54	F				
27	29	31	57	53	62	G			
30	38	36	54	56	63	64	H		
22	28	27	53	51	66	65	87	I	
31	24	21	56	54	67	68	86	89	J

With reference to the above data:

i)   Find out which languages are most closely related to each other and group them accordingly.   (3 marks)

ii) Work out the shared cognate percentages between the different groups, to find the second level of linguistic relationship.   (8 marks)

iii) Show the relationship of these languages in a family tree diagram.   (5 marks)

iv) Estimate, according to glottochronology, the period of time the following languages may have separated from each other:
   1. Language A from Language J
   2. Language D from Language E
   3. Language E from Language I   (9 marks)

Note: Use the formula below to work out the time depth:

$$t = \frac{\log C}{2 \log r}$$

The value of r in this formula is set at 0.805.   [25 marks]

SECTION B

Answer Question 2 and any other two questions in this section

Question 2

a) Study the Zulu data provided below, and do the tasks which follow:

-bonw-	'be seen'	<	-bon-	'see'
-thandw-	'be loved'	<	-thand-	'love'
-bongw-	'be praised'	<	-bong-	'praise'
-phiw-	'be given'	<	-ph-	'give'
-dliw-	'be eaten'	<	-dl-	'eat'
-mbiw-	'be dug'	<	-mb-	'dig'

   i)   Name the verbal extension found in the data above.   (2 marks)
   ii)   List the allomorphs of this extension in Zulu, and describe the distribution of
          the allomorphs on the basis of these data above.   (5 marks)

b) Compare the Zulu data provided in (a) above with those given below, and do the task
   which follows:

-tatshw-	'be gathered'	<	-tap-	'gather'
-boshw-	'be tied'	<	-boph-	'tie'
-hlushw-	'be teased'	<	-hluph-	'tease'
-thunyw-	'be sent'	<	-thum-	'send'
-lotshw-	'be written'	<	-lob-	'write'

   Account for the morphophonemic changes affecting the final consonant of the base
   radical in the data above.   (5 marks)

c) With illustrations from any Bantu language, discuss any **five** characteristics that are
   proposed by Guthrie for identifying languages as belonging to the Bantu family.
                                                                      (15 marks)
                                                                      [25 marks]

Question 3

With the aid of examples from relevant Bantu languages, discuss the operation of each of the following Laws:
  a) Dahl's Law
  b) Meinhof's Law
  c) Kwanyama Law   **[25 marks]**

Question 4

 a) Discuss how the following Modern Bantu words were derived from the Proto-Bantu. (Your discussion should show a step-to-step derivation of these forms):

Proto-Bantu	Kaonde	Lungu	Bemba		
*dîud-	-žula	-zyula	-šula	'uproot'	(6 marks)
*gubo	-fuβu	-vuwu	-vubu	'hippo'	(6 marks)
*tig	-ʃa	-sya		'leave'	(4 marks)

 b) Discuss the following terms/concepts in relation to linguistic comparison and reconstruction
  i)   Arbitrariness
  ii)   Relatedness hypothesis
  iii) Phonetic Plausibility Strategy   (9 marks)
                        [25 marks]

Question 5

 a) List the Proto-Bantu nominal prefixes class 19 – 21, and for each class, show how the Proto-Bantu prefix is reflected in any two modern-day languages. (6 marks)

 b) Wherever the Proto-bantu prefix has changed in a modern Bantu language as illustrated in (a) above, state the phonological process which occurred during the development of the modern Bantu language. (9 marks)

 c) Briefly explain the difference between the following linguistic concepts:
  i)   tone spreading and tone doubling   (3 marks)
  ii)   downdrift and downstep of tone   (4 marks)
  iii) open and close vowels   (3 marks)
                        [25 marks]

Question 6

a) Study the Lamba data given below and answer the questions that follow:

Underlying representation

		Surface representation	
1.	iN-βeβa	imbeβa	'mouse'
	iN- βaŋgo	imaŋgo	'bonds'
2.	iN-loβo	indoβo	'hook'
	iN-lembo	inembo	'tatoos'

i)   Account for the difference in the stem-initial segment in [imbeβa] and /iNβeβa/ in (1), and between [indoβo] and /iNloβo/ in (2) above.   (4 marks)

ii)   Account for the difference in the stem-initial segment in [imbeβa] and [imaŋgo] in (1), and between [indoβo] and [inembo] in (2) above.   (6 marks)

iii)   Name the historical rule responsible for the variations you accounted for in (i) and (ii) above.   (2 marks)

b) With the aid of one example from any Bantu language, briefly explain the following terms:
    i)   subclass
    ii)   verbaliser
    iii)   stabiliser
    iv)   derivative radical   (8 marks)

c) The difference between partial reduplication and complete reduplication is rather unclear and relative. Explain.   (5 marks)

          [25 marks]