

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
RESIT EXAMINATION
JANUARY 2020

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

COURSE NUMBER: ALL103/IDE-ALL103

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
 - 2. CHOOSE TWO QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION**
 - 3. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR UNTIDY WORK, WRONG SPELLING, AND UNGRAMMATICAL SENTENCES.**
 - 4. ALL EXAMPLES SHOULD BE GLOSSED.**

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

SECTION A PHONETICS

(Answer any two Questions from this section)

Question 1

- a) Discuss **two** advantages of describing speech sounds acoustically. (4 marks)
- b) What distinguishes the following sets of sounds in terms of formant structure:
- i) Vowels from nasals;
 - ii) Nasals from laterals; (12 marks)
 - iii) Voiced sounds from voiceless sounds;
 - iv) Fricatives from stops.
- c) Discuss the following terms in relation to acoustic phonetics:
- i) Sound waves;
 - ii) Frequency; (9 marks)
 - iii) Pitch.

[25 Marks]

Question 2

Write an IPA symbol representing each of the following phonetic descriptions, and illustrate each of the sounds with a word in a language that contains the sound:

- i) A voiced interdental fricative;
- ii) A voiced glottal fricative;
- iii) A voiceless labiodental fricative;
- iv) A low back vowel;
- v) A voiced bilabial fricative;
- vi) A voiceless alveolar lateral fricative;
- vii) A voiceless alveopalatal ejective affricate;
- viii) A voiced coarticulated labiovelar stop;
- ix) A voiced alveolar implosive;
- x) A voiceless alveopalatal fricative;
- xi) A voiced velar nasal;
- xii) A voiced lateral liquid;
- xiii) A voiced lateral fricative;
- xiv) A voiced palatal approximant;
- xv) A schwa;
- xvi) A voiceless bilabial fricative;
- xvii) A voiceless glottal stop;
- xviii) A low central vowel;
- xix) A high back lax vowel;
- xx) A voiceless velar fricative;
- xxi) A voiced rhotic liquid;
- xxii) A voiced alveolar affricate
- xxiii) A mid tense front vowel;
- xxiv) A low-high back diphthong;
- xxv) A voiceless alveolar retroflex fricative.

[25 marks]

Question 3

a) Transcribe phonetically the siSwati items which follow:

i)	bhala	'write'
ii)	bala	'count'
iii)	hishwa	'choke'
iv)	hlola	'peep'
vi)	gijima	'run'
vii)	guba	'dig'
viii)	kona	'take a corner'
ix)	kona	'it'
x)	jova	'inject'
xi)	citsa	'pour'
xiii)	indvodza	'man'
xiv)	dlala	'play'
xv)	inja	'dog'
xvi)	hlabelela	'sing'

(15 marks)

b) Give a phonetic representation of the following pairs of English words:

- show – shoe
- weary – worry
- lose – loose
- spot – Scot
- latter – later

(10 marks)

[25 Marks]

SECTION B PHONOLOGY

(Answer any two Questions from this section)

Question 4

a) In Japanese the sounds [s] and [ʃ] are in complementary distribution.

kesa	'this morning'
aʃita	'tomorrow'
osoi	'slow, late'
ʃimasu	'(I will) do it'
kusaru	'to rot'
mufi	'insect'
ase	'sweat'
miso	'soy bean paste'
toʃi	'year'

i) Account for this distribution.

(4 marks)

- ii) Which one these complementary sounds, ([s] or [ʃ]) is at the underlying level? Support your answer. (5 marks)
- iii) Provide a phonemic/underlying representation of all the Japanese phonetic forms represented in the data above. (9 marks)
- b) Name the single feature that distinguishes the following pairs of sounds:
- i) [i] : [ɪ]
 - ii) [k] : [x]
 - iii) [f] : [v] (7 marks)
 - iv) [i] : [e]
 - v) [ɦ] : [h]
 - vi) [z] : [d]
 - vii) [kʰ] : [k]

[25 Marks]

Question 5

- a) The following words are all regular plural forms of English nouns:

pots
wishes
languages
pegs
taps
books
stitches
terms
pads

- (i) List the allomorphs of the plural morpheme in English. (3marks)
 - (ii) Which allomorph makes the best underlying form? Why? (4 marks)
 - (iii) State in words the conditioning factors that account for the presence of the different allomorphs of the English plural morpheme. (6 marks)
- b) Consider the following data from Ganda, a language spoken in Uganda, and do the tasks which follow:

kola	'do'
wawaabira	'accuse'
lwana	'fight'
buulira	'tell'
lya	'eat'
omugole	'bride'
effirimbi	'whistle'
olulimi	'tongue'
wulira	'hear'
omuliro	'fire'

eddwaliro 'hospital'
jjukira 'remember'

- (i) Are the liquids [l] and [r] allophones of the same phoneme in Ganda or do they belong to separate phonemes? (2 marks)
- (ii) If you believe they belong to separate phonemes, give evidence from the data. If you believe they are allophones of the same phoneme, list the conditioning environments. (5 marks)
- (iii) Give a phonemic representation for the first six (6) words. (6 marks)

[25 Marks]

Question 6

- a) Study the data from siSwati presented below and answer the following questions:

d ^z ilit'a	'take down'
d ^v onsa	'pull'
d ^z iŋa	'be needy'
d ^v uma	'thunder'
d ^v uɓa	'refuse smth.'
lid ^v olo	'knee'
d ^v ula	'hit heavily'
d ^z aɓula	'tear'
d ^z elela	'offend'
d ^z ad ^z e	'sister'

- i) On the basis of the data, are [ɓ] and [m] separate phonemes or allophones of the same phoneme? If you think they are separate phonemes, provide evidence from the data. If you think they are allophones state their distribution. (6 marks)
 - ii) Based on the same data, are the phones [d^z] and [d^v] separate phonemes of siSwati or are they allophones of the same phoneme. If you think they are separate phonemes, give your reasons. If you think they are allophones state their distribution. (6 marks)
- (a) Using distinctive features, formalize the following rules:
- (i) A vowel is nasalized when it occurs before a nasal consonant. (3 marks)
 - (ii) A voiceless consonant becomes voiced between vowels. (3 marks)
 - (iii) Voiced stops are phonetically realized as voiceless segments in word-final position. (4 marks)
 - (iv) A labial consonant is inserted between the vowel /o/ and /u/. (3 marks)

[25 Marks]