

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

SPECIAL EXAMINATION

FEBRUARY: 2019

TIME: 3 HRS

MODULE: ECL 110

Marks: 100

This paper consists of 8 pages including the cover page-

Internal Examiners:

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Instructions:

Answer ALL Questions in Section A, ONE in Section B and another One in Section C.

Section A: Linguistics [100]

Question 1

Complete each sentence by choosing one of the pair of words provided for each blank. Write only the letter of the sentence and your chosen word.

- a) A language is made up of (a limited / an unlimited) number of speech sounds.
- b) The sound system of any one language (differs from / is identical to) that of any other language.
- c) Every (symbol / language) is a highly organized system of sounds.
- d) Some sound combinations such as "mb" (may/ may not) occur at the beginning of English words.
- e) Speech is (an instinctive / a learned) form of behaviour.
- f) Linguistic rules are rules that are (descriptive / prescriptive).
- g) The number of speech sounds a person can produce is (limited / unlimited).
- h) Every language consists of (a systematic / an arbitrary) arrangement of speech sounds
- i) Each language is well suited to the (sound system / culture) to which it belongs.
- j) The ability to use language appropriately in social contexts is known as (communicative / grammatical) competence. **20 marks**

Question 2

Match the number of the sentence with the letter of the word that completes it correctly.

<u>Sentences</u>	<u>Words</u>
1) The number of vocal sounds that can be produced is virtually _____.	a) system
2) Every language must be _____ by its speakers.	b) learned
3) The number of sounds in a particular language eg English is _____.	c) limited
4) The structure of any language is _____.	d) unlimited
5) The sounds of a language plus the way in which they are organized make up the sound _____ of the language	e) unique

10 marks

Question 3

Write a "y" for yes and an "n" for no before any of the following statements that you think a linguist might make.

- a) _____ Language X is more logical than language Y.
- b) _____ Language Y, although less logical than language X is more poetic.
- c) _____ Language X has only six vowel sounds in its system while language Y has 10.

d)_____ Because it has almost twice as many vowels as language X, language Y is not only more beautiful but also more poetic.

e)_____ The only vowel sound that occurs at the beginning of a word in language Y is "o".

10 marks

Question 4

Explain briefly, what each of these terms means when it refers to language.

a) arbitrary b) conventional c) competence d) rule governed e)
displacement f) phatic function

30 marks

Question 5

a) What is a dialect? **6 marks**

b) Give the name of an SVO language. **2 marks**

c) Apart from being related genetically, name one other way in which languages
can be related. **2 marks**

Question 6

Write the following words in ordinary English script. Make sure the word is spelt correctly. [20]

- a) [tʃeɪs]
- b) [næk]
- c) [ʃaɪn]
- d) [dʒʌŋk]
- e) [lɛðə]
- f) [nɪz]
- g) [lɔŋgə]
- h) [wɪlz]
- i) [sɪts]
- j) [ləukəl]

Section B: DRAMA [100]

Question 7

“The Trials of Brother Jero” by Wole Soyinka

I am a prophet by birth and by inclination...

Using Brother Jero’s words (above) as your starting point, critically examine his mode of operation in the play.

Question 8

***Nothing But The Truth* by John Kani**

Given what unfolds in the narrative, is the title, *Nothing But The Truth*, relevant to the play?

[Please turn to the next page for Section C]

Section C: Poetry [100]

Question 9: Mongane Wally Serote, "City Johannesburg"

Write an essay analysing this poem. How are feelings - both the feelings of the speaker and those of the people in his society - and the message of the poem suggested through the use of imagery, personification and repetition? Finally, discuss the way in which the speaker's feelings become more powerful and his argument becomes more forceful as the poem develops.

This way I salute you:
My hand pulses to my back trousers pocket
Or to my inner jacket pocket
For my pass, my life
Jo'burg City. 5
My hand like a starved snake rears my pockets
For my thin, ever lean wallet,
While my stomach groans a friendly smile to hunger,
Jo'burg City.
My stomach also devours coppers and papers 10
Don't you know?
Jo'burg City, I salute you;
When I run out or roar in a bus to you,
I leave behind me, my love,
My comic houses and people, my dongas and my ever whirling dust 15
My death,
That's so related to me as a wink to an eye.
Jo'burg City
I travel on your black and white roboted roads
Through the thick iron breath that you inhale 20
At six in the morning and exhale from five noon.
Jo'burg City
That is the time when I come to you,
When your neon flowers flaunt from your electrical wind,
That is the time when I leave you, 25
When your neon flowers flaunt their way through the falling darkness
On your cement trees.
And as I go back, to my love,
My dongas, my dust, my people, my death,
Where death lurks in the dark like a blade in the flesh, 30
I can feel your roots anchoring your might, my feebleness
In my flesh, in my mind, in my blood,
And everything about you says it,
That, that is all you need of me.

Jo'burg City, Johannesburg, 35
 Listen when I tell you,
 There is no fun, nothing, in it,
 When you leave the women and men with such frozen expressions,
 Expressions that have tears like the furrows of soil erosion,
 Jo'burg City, you are dry like death, 40
 Jo'burg City, Johannesburg, Jo'burg City.

OR

Question 10: David Rubadiri, "African Thunderstorm"

Analyse the following poem, discussing the use of figurative language. What does the thunderstorm symbolise (stand for) here, and how is an important message conveyed through this? Also, pay special attention to images and their associations, showing how these are used to express key ideas in the poem.

From the west
 Clouds come hurrying with the wind
 Turning
 Sharply
 Here and there 5
 Like a plague of locusts
 Whirling
 Tossing up things on its tail
 Like a madman chasing nothing.

Pregnant clouds 10
 Ride stately on its back
 Gathering to perch on hills
 Like dark sinister wings;
 The Wind whistles by
 And trees bend to let it pass. 15

In the village
 Screams of delighted children
 Toss and turn
 In the din of the whirling wind,
 Women - 20
 Babies clinging on their backs -
 Dart about
 In and out
 Madly

The Wind whistles by 30
Whilst trees bend to let it pass.

Clothes wave like tattered flags
Flying off
To expose dangling breasts
As jagged blinding flashes 35
Rumble, tremble and crack
Amidst the smell of fired smoke
and the pelting march of the storm.

OR (turn to next page)

Question 11: Mbuyiseni Oswald Mtshali, "Song of Sunrise"

Write an analysis of the following poem. Pay special attention to the way in which feeling and atmosphere are conveyed through the use of various poetic devices (including imagery, sound devices and line length). What does this reveal about the speaker's feelings, his way of life and his attitude to the society in which he lives?

The sword of daybreak
snips the shroud
of the night from the sky,
and the morning
peeps through the blankets 5
like a baby rising
from its cot
to listen to the
peal of the bell.

Arise! Arise! 10
All Workers!
To work! To work!
You must go!

Buses rumble,
Trains rattle, 15
Taxis hoot.

I shuffle in the queue
with feet that patter
on the station platform,
and stumble into the coach 20
that squeezes me like a lemon
of all the juice of my life.

[END]