Scott Christian UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS /ECED)

END OF SEMESTER EXAM: SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

COURSE CODE: **ENG 310**

COURSE TITLE: **HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS**

Time: **8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question 1 in Section A and any other two in Section B

SECTION A: COMPULSORY

1.a) i. Provide the origin of historical linguistics. (2 Marks)

ii. What does comparative linguistics entail (1Mark)

iii. How do Historical and Comparative linguistics relate? (2 Marks)

b). Describe the distinction between

i. synchrony and diachrony in language (4 Marks)

ii. Lexicostatistics and glottochronology (4 Marks)

c). With examples, demonstrate how English lexically compares with Latin and Greek (9 Marks)

d. Justify the four major steps one uses in constructing language genetically (8 Marks)

SECTION B

2. a). i Distinguish between typological and genealogical classification of language. (2 Markks)

ii. Provide an example of language family that falls under genealogical classification (1Mark)

b). With illustrations, demonstrate how typological classification is done in six different ways (12 Marks).

3. a) Describe three major levels of empirical evidence for language change with illustrations (12 Marks)

b). Explain the notions of

i. Phonemic merger (1 Mark)

ii. Conditioned merger (1 Mark)

iii. Unconditioned merger (1 Mark)

4. a). Discuss the notion of sound shift (3 Marks)

b). Demonstrate how any three laws dictate sound change in language (12 Marks)

5. a). Explain what entails reconstruction in language (3 Marks)

b). Justify the two major methods of reconstruction in language (10 Marks)

c). State the weaknesses of language reconstruction (2 Marks)

END