FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

1st SEMESTER 2019

ASSESMNT 2

FOR
Theoretical Linguistics
TRL811S
Dear Student

Thank you for submitting your second assignment on time. It was our pleasure to mark it. Hope your marks are good as this is your last assignment. It was evident that the comments given in the previous assignment were worked on, although some students still struggle to reference. Please read more on referencing. Plagiarism is a serious offense and needs to be redressed. Always read and simply summarise information and not copy verbatim. Remember that you usually lose marks for not following instructions.

There is still a need to work on how you structure your paragraphs.

Read the comments that you find in your assignment. We wish you all the best for the upcoming examinations. If there is anything that you are still unsure of, do not hesitate to contact the marker-tutor.

We hope to see you at the June examinations.

Regards,

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Course Code: TRL811S

Department: COMMUNICATION

Course Duration: SEMESTER ONE

NQF Level and Credit: LEVEL 8; 15 CREDITS

Your marker-tutor for THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS
The Namibia University of Science and Technology has appointed ANNELI NGHIKEMBUA as marker-tutor for THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS
ANNELI NGHIKEMBUA will be at your service, should you experience any problems with your studies or with the assignments. Contact details are as follows:
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Your moderator for THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS
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Your content-editor for THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS
The Namibia University of Science and Technology has appointed Prof J. Kangira as the moderator for THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS
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Assignment 2

Answer only two questions

Question 1

According to Ferdinand de Saussure, priority should be given to the spoken language and not only the written form. Do you agree or disagree with his view?

Points for discussion may include:

- Priority should be given to spoken language. Traditional grammar over emphasized the written form.
- Spoken form is infinitely older and wider spread than the written form.
- All forms of writing derived from spoken form.
- Language is dynamic and change constantly.
- Therefore to say language is corrupt at any given point in time is not valid.
- Descriptive and prescriptive grammar.
- Linguistic is concerned with the description of language in its everyday use whether it has “ungrammatical” forms or not.
- A Modern Linguist is interested in all languages.
- Dichotomies: Language and parole.
- Diachronic and Synchronous.
- Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic.
- Signifier and signified.
Question 2

Develop the Phrase Structure Rules for the following sentences and end by drawing labelled tree diagram for each

a) The best student received an award from the Department

S → NP VP (1)
NP → Det Adj N (1)
VP → V NP (2)
NP → Det N PP (2)
PP → P NP (2)
NP → Det N (1)

9 marks for the Phrase structure rule

3 marks for the labelled tree diagram

b) Lionel Messi Scored a spectacular goal between the legs of the Goal keeper

S → NP VP (1)
NP → N (1)
VP → V NP (2)
NP → Det Adj N PP (3)
PP → P NP (2)
NP → Det N PP (2)
PP → P NP (2)
NP → Det N.modifier N (1)

14 marks for the Phrase structure rule
4 marks for the labelled tree diagram

**Question 3**

Compare and contrast traditional and modern Grammar.(250-250 words)  

- Traditional Grammar is the foundation of all approaches  
- It goes back to Greece of the fifth century before Christ  
- Traditional Grammar was not descriptive it was prescriptive  
- Traditional grammar imposed Latin models over English which made it difficult to explain the structure of some sentences. It consisted of parts of speech.

- Since Latin is a very organized language, which can be broken down into clear classes or categories, the early Latin teachers started a system of analysing languages by these categories. They used a system of classifying words into parts of speech according to their meaning (e.g. nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions and conjunctions.

**Students are not limited to the above points only**

*Format: 10*

*Content: 15*

[Total would depend on the questions opted for]