

**Department of Languages, Cultural
Studies and Applied Linguistics (LanCSAL)**

June 2020 Main Exam



MODULE: Linguistics 2A (LIN2AA2)

PAPER: **Sociolinguistics**

EXAMINERS: Dr J Chikasha
Mrs TN Mphahlele

DATE:

MARKS: 100

TIME: 3 hours

This paper consists of three (3) pages.

All questions are compulsory.

1. **Match** the term with the correct definition:

Term	Definition
a. Language loyalty	A. A language that develops as a means of communication between people who do not have a common language
b. Language maintenance	B. A language of political, cultural and social unit used as a symbol of national unity
c. Diglossia	C. The study of the relationship between language and society
d. National language	D. A situation where a speech community, under circumstances that would seem to favour language shift, holds on to its language.
e. Pidgin	E. A situation whereby two distinct varieties of the same language exist side by side and divided along functional lines
f. sociolinguistics	F. The variable function of language for group maintenance where speakers maintain their language in a situation where it would be expected that the speakers would shift.

(4x3=12)

2. **List** and **explain** any four functions of speech. (1+3x4=16)3. **Briefly explain** why women use more standard forms than men. (4x2=8)4. **Distinguish** between the **High (H)** and the **Low (L)** variety of a language. (2X5=10)5. **Discuss** the three distinct features of diglossia. (3x3=9)6. **Explain** the **distinction** between a regional and a social dialect. (5)7. Hedging is a word or phrase that makes a statement less forceful or assertive. From the list provided by Lakoff below, **which features** may serve as hedging devices?

Lexical hedges, superpolite forms, intensifiers, tag questions, question intonation, emphatic stress, euphemisms. (2x5=10)

8. **Discuss** the four interrelated language planning steps/stages required to develop a code or variety in order to serve as an official language. (16)

9. Write a paragraph in which you **discuss** possible reasons for language maintenance. Cite relevant examples in your discussion. (14)

(Total marks: 100)

TOTAL: 100