

# The University of Papua New Guinea

## First Semester Supplementary Examination ~ 2009

Course Number: 4.41478

Title of Paper: Survey of Linguistic Theories

Sequence of Papers: One of One

Time Allowed: 3 Hours plus 10 Minutes Reading Time

Instructions to Candidates: Answer All Questions in the Exam Paper as per Instructions

Marking Scheme: The Value of Each Question Is Indicated

Aids To Be Provided:

By Students Administration: Wall Clock

By Communication & Modern Languages Strand: Nil

Aids Candidates May Take into Examination Room: Pens, Rulers, Erasers, Correction Fluid

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. \_\_\_\_\_

## Section A: Short Answer Questions

[35 marks]

Instructions: Give a short answer (approx. half a page long) to any 5 (five) of the following questions (5 marks each):

- Q 1 Describe Non-Western Linguistic thought in ancient India and China.
- Q 2 Ancient Greece: provide an evidence-supported description of the Sophists' role in the development of linguistic thought.
- Q 3 "Most of the developments in Ancient Greek theoretical grammar grew out of philosophy, and often stemmed from the *Nomos/ Phusis* debate, which distinguished between that which exists "by nature" (*phusis*) and that which exists "by convention" (*nomos*)." Discuss, with reference to Plato's *Cratylus*.
- Q 4 Describe the general focus of Greek Thought on Language.
- Q 5 What do you know about the Romans and their contribution to linguistic knowledge?
- Q 6 Describe European Linguistics in the Middle Ages
- Q 7 The Renaissance: main achievements of the period.
- Q 8 Philology in the 19<sup>th</sup> century: main focus and achievements, with reference to the influence of Darwin's Theory of Evolution on linguistics.
- Q 9 Explain why (and how) Ferdinand de Saussure's structuralism marked a new era in the development of linguistics.
- Q 10 American Structuralism: Achievements and Weaknesses

## Section B: Practical

[15 marks]

Draw the timeline of the three main stages in the development of linguistics, labeling their main characteristics / events.