



~~University of Queensland
St. John's Road, St. John's Park, QLD 4072~~

~~Subject: AFL1502~~

Assignment 1 (English assignment 10)

Unique number: 577582

2nd semester

Due date: 31st July 2017

Question 1:

Ubuntu may be interpreted as a system of values that affects all facets of life. Do you agree? Give examples from 5 different facets of 'everyday' life to support your answer.

Yes, I do agree because Ubuntu affects all aspects of life in many ways, such as the cultural, the traditional and the modern ways. It is bound according to their cultures but in any society it should be upheld as it is the rights of both men and women and it is a form of respect towards all human, but today not all people adhere to Ubuntu.

Examples of five (5) different facets of 'everyday' life.

- 1). In the aspect of respect. Example to keep an eye on the neighbour's house when he or she is not around but today respect for other people's property is unheard.
- 2). In the aspect of disciplining. No child abuse was ever experienced in traditional societies but now child abuse is more in the pretext of disciplining the child.
- 3). In the aspect of diversity. Everyone should live together in peace and trust despite their difference of cultural and social backgrounds.
- 4). In the aspects of opposition to all bad qualities and acts such as greed, jealousy, backbiting, stealing, holding grudges etc. Ubuntu is a part of our daily life and theirs many aspect to it and its values are supposed to be carried out in our daily lives, but not everyone follows it especially today in the modern times. It's fading away gradually with time.
- 5). In the aspect of sharing and helping. Do for others without expecting nothing in return, we should not discriminate between rich and poor people, sick and healthy etc.

Question 2

(a) Write down 2 characteristics of vowels and 2 characteristics of consonants in your African language and explain how these two types of sounds differ.

Two characteristics of vowels:

- Always move relatively unhindered or unimpeded through the mouth (orally).
- Always move out over the middle of the tongue (medially).

Two characteristic of consonants:

- The air stream used to form or articulate them is either totally cut off by means of speech organs or just hindered in some way.
- May be formed through the mouth (orally) or through the nose and they may be released over the middle of the tongue (medially) or over the side of the tongue (laterally).

The sound difference between the vowels and consonants:

Vowels: They are always voiced.

Consonants: Some sounds are voiced and some are voiceless.

(b) IsiZulu: Umama upheke uphuthu izolo ntambama

(i) Write down the subject concord in the sentence and then briefly discuss the concord system in your African language

The subject concord in the sentence is: Umama – subject concord. The ‘u’ is the concord and added to mam being the subject. The ‘u’ in umama refers to

she (mother). 'U' is in singular form. Therefore umama is the subject concord as the subject is in agreement with the rest of the sentence.

Subject concord is added to the beginning of the word. A subject concord is used to make sure the subject is in agreement to the rest of the sentence.

(ii) Explain the structure of nouns in your chosen African language by referring to the two (2) nouns in the sentence.

The Zulu noun consist of two essential part, the prefix and the stem. Nouns are grouped in noun classes based on the prfix they have with each class having a number. Therefore

Umama – noun. It falls into class la-2o: u-/o- class (mainly proper noun and relationship terms).

Uphuthu – noun. It falls under (u(lu) class – (a variety of objects).

(iii) In the sentence, identify the type of suffix contained in the verb and then write brief notes on the structure of the verb in your chosen African language.

The noun stem is phək – you can add anything to build a different word for example phək – ela. The original word is pheka, only the 'a 'is changed to suffix 'e' as phekā is present tense and pheke is pat tense. In this case the sentence is as following:

'u' – subject concord + phək (verb) + 'e' as perfect suffix.

Question 3

(a) Look at the sentence in your chosen African language in Question 2 (b) above. Identify the subject, predicate and object in the sentence and then explain how a sentence is constructed in your African language.

Subject – umama

Predicate – upheke uphuthu izolo ntambama.

Object- uphuthu

A sentence in any African language should include a subject, a predicate and an object. A subject or an object may not necessarily appear in the sentence, it may be represented by an object concord or by a pronoun or possessive etc.

(b) Select the word from your chosen African language below and then explain the construction of deverbatives by referring to this word:

IsiZulu: Umfundisi

Umfundisi (Teacher) – personal devarbative

A deverbative a noun. Umfundisi is derived from a verb 'funda' the prefix 'um' changed the vowel 'a' that 'isi'. Therefore it is constructed the following way:

Um (prefix) + funda (root word) + isi (suffix) = umfundisi.

(c) Nouns in the African languages may be described by means of a variety of other word categories. Show how this may take place by supplying four (4) examples of your own and discussing each of them.

Four types of nouns with explanation and examples:

- **Possessive** – a noun or a stem. The possessive construction consist of a possession + a possessive concord + a possessor. **Example:** ‘my dogs’would be izinja za. My dogs are eating: izinja zami ziyadla
- **The relative** – they are 4 relative stems each uses different type of concord. **Example :** o-

1. Nouns or nominal relatives’.

2. Primitive or original radical relative stems: the relative concord of this type or the looks the same as that of the nominal relative but the relative stem dos not have a nominal prefix.

3. Enumerative relative stems, using a concord that looks the same as the relevant class prefix.

4. Verbal relatives of which the concord consists of a relative concord plus a verbal stem plus the suffix.

- **The locative** – this word category borders on the line between words that qualify the noun and tjose that qualify the verb. **Example:** esitolo means in/on/to/from/ at the shop
- **The copulative** - is a non –verbal descriptor of the action of the sentence, expressing ‘to be’, ‘is’, ‘are’ and ‘have’ or ‘has’. **Example:** class 1: um (u) full prefix, simple prefix m(u) = umúntu “person”.

Three different copulatives are distinguished:

1. The identifying copulative: indicates that the two objects are the same
2. The descriptive copulative: describes a noun with regards to place, manner, and characteristics and so on.
3. The associative copulative: expresses the concept of ownership of possession without using a verb to express it.

