



**MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**  
University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year  
**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES**  
**SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**  
**BACHELOR OF ARTS**  
**AEN 202: PHONOLOGY OF ENGLISH**

**DATE: 25/11/2020**

**TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Answer Question One (Compulsory) and Any Other Two Questions**

**QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)**

- a) Transcribe phonemically the following words. (4 marks)
- i) Phoneme
  - ii) Laugh
  - iii) Conduct
  - iv) Chat
- b) Briefly demonstrate how tongue height distinguishes English vowels. (5 marks)
- c) Using your own examples, demonstrate that English phonology differs from English orthography (4 marks)
- d) Using an example in each case, explain the following aspects of phonological conditioning. (4 marks)
- i) Nasalization
  - ii) Palatalization
- e) Use the word 'economics' and 'issue' to explain the term free variation. (4 marks)
- f) Perform both broad and narrow transcription, of the words 'lit' and 'till' and explain your procedure. (4 marks)
- g) Provide the phonemic transcription of 'fish' and 'till' and use the transcribed words to explain the major components of a syllable. (5 marks)

### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss tone and intonation as supra-segmental features in English phonology and their communication functions. (10 marks)
- b) Provide the phonemic transcriptions and the syllable structures of the following English words.
- i) In
  - ii) Me
  - iii) Apt
  - iv) Strict
  - v) Pain (10 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Briefly explain what you understand by centralizing diphthongs. (6 marks)
- b) Discuss the phonological differences between British and American English as varieties of English language (14 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) With specific illustrations, identify and describe the following phonological processes.
- a) Metathesis (3 marks)
  - b) Epenthesis (3 marks)
  - c) Elision (3 marks)
  - d) Apocope (3 marks)
- b) Distinguish between minimal pairs and complementary distribution (8 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Describe the following stricture types and give all the English phonemes in each category.

- i) Plosives
- ii) Nasals
- iii) Fricatives
- iv) Approximants
- v) Trill