



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

AEN 403: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

DATE: SCHOOL BASED

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One (Compulsory) and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY (30 MARKS))

- a) Explain any two functions of language. (4 marks)
- b) What are the four elements that a good definition of a speech community should have and why. (4 marks)
- c) Differentiate between a national language and an official language. (4 marks)
- d) What is the difference between a social and a regional dialect? (2 marks)
- e) Explain the effect of taboo words on language (3 marks)
- f) Define the following sociolinguistic terms:
 - i) slang (1 mark)
 - iii) accent (2 marks)
 - iii) register (1 mark)
 - iv) idiolect (2 marks)
 - v) lingua franca (1 mark)
- f) Explain the relationship between language and society. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Using appropriate examples, explain how any five factors can contribute to language shift.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain any four factors that determine the differences of linguistic repertoire between male and female (12 marks)
- b) Explain any FOUR functions of code switching (6 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss FOUR characteristics between a Pidgin and a Creole (12 marks)
- b) State any five factors that affect the strength of a bilingual individual. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Supposing that you are an employee in the state department of planning who has been assigned the role of language planning. Discuss FIVE factors that you would consider as you develop your plan?