



**MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**  
**University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year**  
**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES**  
**FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR**  
**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**AEN 407: LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY AND LANGUAGE CLASSIFICATION**

**DATE: 13/12/2022**

**TIME: 11:00 – 1:00 PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question one and any other two questions.**

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

- a) Typological classification groups languages into types according to their structural characteristics. With illustrations describe the **three** most famous typological classifications (12 marks)
- b) With relevant examples discuss six ways on which a language expands its lexicon. (18 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

Language change is observed when a generation of speakers produces linguistic expressions that differ from those of previous generations, either in form or in distribution. Discuss **four** forms of lexical change.

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

English is a non-tonal language; however, sentence intonation plays a crucial role where the difference in meaning is signalled by the intonation. Use the **four** types of sentence functions in English to illustrate this.

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

Investigation into the way in which different languages combine grammatical units (morphemes) within words is the longest-established aspect of typology. Languages assign to a number of basic morphological types. With illustrations discuss **three** divisions of languages according to the degree to which morphemes are fused.

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

The relative order of verbs and objects is often considered to be the most important of typology since not all languages express overt subjects. Qualify the English language as a '**head first**' language.