



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Kenyatta University)

University Examinations 2015/2016

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE IN BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

**AEN 306: PSYCHOLINGUISTICS**

**Date: 3/8/2016**

**Time: 8.30-10.30 AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

*Answer Question one and any other two questions.*

**SECTION A**

**COMPULSORY**

1. a) With the help of examples, define the following terms as used in psycholinguistics.
  - i. Language Acquisition Device (LAD) (2 marks)
  - ii. Elicited imitation (2 marks)
  - iii. Speech perception (2 marks)
  - iv. Speech production (2 marks)
  - v. Vocal play (2 marks)
- b) "Language expresses a person's individuality". Discuss. (10 marks)
- c)
  - i) Distinguish between hemispheric dominance and localization in relation to language and the brain. (5 marks)
  - ii) Discuss the key indicators of stuttering as a fluency disorder. (5 marks)

**SECTION B**

2. Basing your argument on the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, discuss the relationship between language and thought. (20 marks)

3. a) Briefly outline three theories of language acquisition. (10 marks)
- b) Explain the following milestones in child language acquisition.
- i. Sound development (2 marks)
  - ii. Phonological development (2 marks)
  - iii. Grammatical development (2 marks)
  - iv. Semantic development (2 marks)
  - v. Pragmatic development (2 marks)
4. With the help of examples, explain the following language disorders.
- a) Aphasia (5 marks)
  - b) Dyslexia (5 marks)
  - c) Dysgraphia (5 marks)
  - d) Language delay (5 marks)
5. a) Discuss the challenges researchers face in investigating children's language. (10 marks)
- b) Briefly describe how technological advancements have revolutionized child language acquisition research. (10 marks)