



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

THIRD YEAR SUPPLEMENTARY/SPECIAL EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS

APH 308: PHILOSOPHY OF LANGUAGE

DATE: 9/3/2023

TIME: 8.30 - 10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

Using relevant examples, discuss A.J. Ayer's contribution to the development of the principle of verifiability.

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Rules of definitions guide us to avoid vagueness, ambiguity and irrelevance. Discuss the nature of any four of these rules.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Critically assess the strengths and weaknesses of any three theories of truth.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

According to Immanuel Kant, our minds create a picture of the universe based on our perceptions. Therefore, our language can only express the appearance of things, not the true nature of these things. Critically assess this claim using appropriate demonstrations.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Discuss V.V.O. Quine's contribution to philosophy of language