



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2017/2018

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
MATHEMATICS**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

SMA 109: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS

DATE: 5/12/2017

TIME: 2.00-4.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a)
 - i) Differentiate between RAM and ROM. (4 marks)
 - ii) What is the work of control unit in a computer? (3 marks)
 - iii) Assuming you want to print your document, which menu do you choose for 'print preview'? (1 mark)
- b)
 - i) What is data as used in computers? (2 marks)
 - ii) Operating systems typically provide each process with a virtual address space. Give three advantages of this. (3 marks)
- c)
 - i) Name and explain briefly three main types of computers. (6 marks)
 - ii) How is access control managed in Windows NT? (5 marks)
 - iii) Differentiate between System Software and Application Software? (4 marks)

- iv) Give two advantages of computers. (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) i) Explain what is meant by a master file in computers. (3 marks)
- ii) Explain in your own words what we mean by 'Expansion slots' in a computer. (2 marks)
- iii) What do you understand by the term 'off-line' device?. (2 marks)
- b) i) What is the meaning of the abbreviation FIFO? (2 marks)
- ii) State and explain three types of internet protocol (6 marks)
- iii) Explain what we mean by the word 'Operating System' and give four examples of the same. (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) i) Which binary number comes right after the binary number 101001? (3 marks)
- ii) What is a NIC and what are its functions in a computer? (2 marks)
- iii) How many bits is a kilobyte? (2 marks)
- b) i) Describe what you understand by the term menu bar in MS Word. (2 marks)
- ii) What menu is selected to spell check? (2 marks)
- iii) Computers have evolved over a time since the first computer was manufactured. How many generations of computers have been encountered till today? Give a brief history of computer evolution. (5 marks)
- c) i) Define the following words:
1. Computer
 2. Hardware
 3. Software
 4. Monitor
- (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) i) Formatting an external disk is important. What is formatting? (3 marks)
- ii) List three types of system software and Application Software. (6 marks)
- iii) Explain the meaning of the word application software in computers. (2 marks)

- b) i) Explain in your own terms what you understand by the term device driver? (2 marks)
- ii) Give four examples of output devices. (4 marks)
- iii) Explain the meaning of 'hanging indent' as used in MS Word. (3 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) i) List and explain four parts of MSWord screen. (8 marks)
- ii) List and explain three features that allow a user to edit or modify a document. (6 marks)
- b) Define the following words as used in MS Word;
- i. Font attribute (2 marks)
- ii. Type face (2 marks)
- iii. Subscript (2 marks)