



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2016/2017

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

SECOND YEAR APRIL SESSION EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION

AEN 203: MORPHOLOGY, SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS

DATE: 25/8/2017

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS) (COMPLUSARY)

- a) Use “**immediate constituent analysis**” to analyze the following sentences. Remove ambiguity where necessary.
- i. The huge cat ate the tiny rat.
 - ii. Flying aeroplanes can be dangerous.
 - iii. They passed the port at midnight.
 - iv. The fear of the policeman.
 - v. An old man saw the sick child. (10 marks)
- b) Using phrase structure grammar analyse the sentence below.
- i. Colourless green ideas sleep furiously (5 marks)
 - ii. Describe at least three weaknesses of phrase structure grammar (6 marks)
- c) Identify and explain briefly the weaknesses of traditional grammar. (4 marks)
- d) Using an appropriate illustration, differentiate the following terms:
Nodes, dominance, Precedence, sisterhood and motherhood (5 marks)

SECTION B: MORPHOLOGY

2.
 - a) Identify and illustrate any four word formation processes (8 marks)
 - b) Explain with examples free and bound morphemes (6 marks)
 - c) Use examples to differentiate between inflectional and derivational morphemes (6 marks)
3.
 - a) Using examples from English and any other language of your choice, explain the following terms (10 marks)
 - i. Root
 - ii. Morphology
 - iii. Prefixes and suffixes
 - iv. Base
 - b) Analyse the following words into constituent morphemes and group the morphemes as either free or bound
 - i. Desirable
 - ii. Inconsistency
 - iii. Boyishness

SECTION C: SEMANTICS

4. Discuss any four types of meaning using clear examples (20 marks)
5. Define and illustrate any five sense relations. For each sense relation, give at least two examples (20 marks)