



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Kenyatta University)

University Examinations for 2014/2015

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

ECU 109: FUNDAMENTALS OF COMPUTING

Date: 17/12/2014

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Name the major components of a computer and the function of each. (4 Marks)
- b) What are the FOUR different memory used for data storage? (4 Marks)
- c) Explain four ways in which computer based systems have transformed organizations. (4 Marks)
- d) Mention three ways that an organization can use to safeguard data from the impact of computer viruses. (3 Marks)
- e) Using a suitable diagram, explain the term computer architecture. (4 Marks)
- f) What are the functions of operating systems in a computer? Give one example of a standalone and one for a network operating system. (5 Marks)
- g) Describe the three main network topologies used in implementing computer networks. (6 Marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 2: (20 MARKS)

- a) John wants to password protect his document from unauthorized users. How will he achieve this using Ms Word? (4 Marks)
- b) Define the following elements of the windows desktop and state its purpose. (6 Marks)
 - i. Task bar
 - ii. Icon
 - iii. Status bar
- c) State any four challenges of implementing computer networks in colleges today. (10 marks)

QUESTION 3: (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the different types of application software. (10 Mark)
- b) What is cache? Why is it necessary? (2 Marks)
- c) Define the following features found in spreadsheets (4 Marks)
 - i. Sheet tab
 - ii. Formula bar
 - iii. Name box
 - iv. Functions
- d) Explain the two procedures of creating a folder in Ms Windows. (4 marks)

QUESTION 4: (20 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish a header and footer in Ms word (4 marks)
- b) Explain any three factors that influence the performance of the computer. (6 Marks)
- c) The internet can be described as a double edged sword. Discuss this statement. (10 marks)