



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

EXAMINATION FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (APPLIED LINGUISTICS)

AEN 902: ACQUISITION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE

DATE: 27/4/2023

TIME: 2:00 – 5:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two.

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

Drawing illustrations from applied linguistics, discuss the following philosophical foundations of knowledge:

- i. Empiricism
- ii. Rationalism

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Some sections of a thesis in applied linguistics such as the background, statement of the problem and justification of the study should be guided by a model of argumentation. Discuss any two such models.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Point out and discuss any two interpretive methods that can be used by researchers in applied linguistics to demonstrate novelty in their work.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Outline any two theories of knowledge and show how each may be used to construct new knowledge in applied linguistics research.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Discuss how hedging can be used to prove that knowledge in applied linguistics is tentative.