



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2017/2018

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

AUGUST SESSION EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

AEN 302: ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND USAGE

DATE: 16/11/2017

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

1. (a) Identify the structure of the underlined noun phrases in the following sentences.
 - (i) I saw no one
 - (ii) Several announcements were made.
 - (iii) Were the concerns about the leakage of exams genuine?
 - (iv) Any young man of medium height can lift it.
 - (v) I bought a cow which produces plenty of milk. (5 marks)
- (b) What is the function of each of the underlined phrases?

Water is life? If we believe this, then we would give this commodity the attention it deserves. We would find it precious enough to sacrifice everything in order to conserve it. These days, however, we appear to be doing things that deplete the little that remains of it. Indiscriminate cutting down of trees is just one such thing. (8 marks)
- (c) Use the auxiliary 'may' to express:
 - (i) request (ii) permission (iii) possibility
 - (iv) advice (v) a wish (5 marks)
- (d) In each case, construct a sentence to illustrate the following points:
 - (i) that 'do' can be used as a primary auxiliary

- (ii) that three primary auxiliary verbs can co-occur in a verb phrase
- (iii) that a primary auxiliary can be used in interrogative formation.
- (iv) That a modal auxiliary can be used for emphasis. (4 marks)
- (e) Use the following words as instructed:
 - (i) 'that' - as (i) a pronoun (ii) a determiner
 - (ii) 'right' - as (i) an adjective (iii) an adverb
 - (iii) 'my' + a noun - (i) to show possession (ii) to show a relationship
 - (iv) 'swallow' - as (i) a bare infinitive (ii) -ed infinitive (8 marks)
- 2. (a) Although the active voice is said to be more effective, the passive voice has its place in communication. Discuss. (10 marks)
- (b) Illustrate the extent to which there is a one to one relationship between voice and transitivity. (10 marks)
- 3. With adequate examples, clearly explain how tense, number and person indicate the finiteness of a verb. (20 marks)
- 4. (a) Construct two sentences for each of the following words, first using it as a preposition and then as a conjunction.
 - (i) after (ii) as (iii) since (iv) until (v) before (10 marks)
- (b) Describe and illustrate the contexts in which ellipses occurs in English. (6 marks)
- (c) What is the function of the prepositional phrase in each of the following sentences?
 - (i) In the cafeteria would -be a wonderful place to meet.
 - (ii) I found it at the junction.
 - (iii) The man with long hair is my relative.
 - (iv) They were worried about him. (4 marks)
- 5. The participle, whether verbal or adjectival, can be used in various ways. Explain. (20 marks)