



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY
University Examinations for 2024/2025 Academic
Year

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY AND SPECIAL NEEDS
EDUCATION

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER
EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE IN
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) –
GEOGRAPHY
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SPECIAL NEEDS)
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) – ENG/LIT
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (SCIENCE)
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (AGED)

EPS 200: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

DATE: 15TH JANUARY, 2025

TIME: 2.00 PM – 4.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

*Answer question **ONE (Compulsory)** and any other **TWO** questions*

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

a) Citing relevant examples where applicable, differentiate between the following terms as they are used in developmental psychology.

- i. Phenotype and genotype
- ii. Gross and fine motor development
- iii. Development and growth
- iv. Cooperative and associative play
- v. Cephalocaudal and Proximal-distal development
- vi. Dominant and Recessive Genes

(12 Marks)

b) Discuss five educational implications of the cognitive development theory.

(10 Marks)

- c) Outline two assumptions of each of the following theoretical approaches to Developmental Psychology:
- i. Behavioural theories
 - ii. Psychoanalytic theories
 - iii. Biological theories
 - iv. Dynamic Systems Theory
- (8 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain four defense mechanisms that students have successfully used to cope with anxiety resulting from academic failure.
- (8 Marks)
- b) Explain **four** identity states that an adolescent may develop during the identity versus diffusion stage according to Erik Erikson's psychosocial theory.
- (12 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain three strengths and two weaknesses of Kohlberg's theory of moral development. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss five limitations that a teacher may encounter when carrying out research on children using naturalistic observation. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain six emotional developments within the first two years of development. (12 Marks)
- b) Citing behavior characteristics in each, differentiate between ambivalently and avoidantly attached infants. (8 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain five reasons why play is important in the development of children. (10 Marks)
- b)(i) Explain the meaning of the term pre-natal stage in developmental psychology. (1 Mark)
- (ii) Discuss the developments in each of the stages in pre-natal development. (9 Marks)