



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ARTS

AGE 308: ARID AND SEMI ARID AREAS

DATE: 25/4/2019

TIME: 2.00-4.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and any other Two Questions

1.
 - a) Define the following terms:
 - i. Climate variability (2 marks)
 - ii. Arid land (2 marks)
 - b) Assess how pastoralists conserve the ASAL regions in Africa. (6 marks)
 - c) Describe the salient characteristics that make ASALs fragile ecosystems(8 marks)
 - d) Explain the characteristics of the following type of vegetation found in arid areas
 - i. Emphemerials (3 marks)
 - ii. Nonsuccurent perennials (3 marks)
 - e) Assess three ways in which a community can adapt to climate change. (6 marks)
2.
 - a) Discuss the natural factors that are responsible for the development of arid areas. (12 marks)
 - b) Describe the need for integration approach in planning for ASALs land use. (8 marks)
3. Using appropriate examples, discuss the challenges facing Countries located in arid areas. (20 marks)
4.
 - a) Describe five criteria used to define desert areas. (10 marks)
 - b) Explain how farmers adapt to the ASALs conditions in Africa. (10 marks)
5.
 - a) Evaluate how degradation associated with human settlement can be combated. (10 marks)
 - b) Discuss the possible solutions to ASALs problems. (10 marks)