



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

AEN 100: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions in this paper

1. a) Use two justification to explain why linguistics is described as a science (8 marks)
b) Explain the difference between the following concepts:
 - i) Diachronic and synchronic linguistics
 - ii) Prescriptive and descriptive linguistics (8 marks)
- c) Explain duality and productivity as properties of human language (6 marks)
- d) Give any two differences between consonant and vowel sounds (8 marks)
2. a) Discuss two theories of the origin of human language (10 marks)
- b) Explain two features that make human languages universal. (6 marks)
- c) Using two examples, state the concern of syntax (4 marks)
3. Discuss the statement that linguistics is not an isolated island. (20 marks)
4. a) Discuss two basic theories on child language acquisition (8 marks)
- b) Describe any one form of animal communication and compare it with human language. (12 marks)
5. Using five examples of each, explain how the knowledge that you have learnt in morphology and syntax is helpful to you as a teacher of language (20 marks)