



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY
University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES
FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
BACHELOR OF ARTS
AEN 403: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

DATE: 23/12/2022

TIME: 8:00 – 10.00A.M

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question one and any other two questions

QUESTION ONE (30MARKS)

- a) State any three importance of social networks. (3 marks)
- b) Outline features of a national language. (3 marks)
- c) Clearly, explain the functions performed by the following languages in Kenya. (4 marks)
 - i. English
 - ii. Kiswahili
- d) Clearly discuss the following terms as used in sociolinguistic. (12 marks)
 - i. Idiolect
 - ii. Bilingualism
 - iii. Language maintenance
 - iv. Code switching
 - v. Mutual intelligibility
 - vi. Language repertoire
- e) Describe four areas where language and society interrelate (8 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20MARKS)

- a) Distinguish between language planning and language policy (6 marks)
- b) Describe the process of language planning. (8 marks)
- c) Elaborate four any factors to consider before the process of language planning (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20MARKS)

- a) Explain any four types of bilinguals (8 marks)
- b) Describe any four benefits of being a multilingual or a bilingual (12 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20MARKS)

- a) State any four characteristics of standard language (4 marks)
- b) Show the difference between a language and a dialect (4 marks)
- c) Use appropriate examples to describe the process involved in language standardization

(12 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20MARKS)

- a) Using appropriate examples explain the following terms: (4 marks)
 - i. Language shift
 - ii. Language death
- b) Describe any three causes of language endangerment (6 marks)
- c) Clearly describe five factors motivating language shift (10 marks)