# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 

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## University Examinations 2014/2015

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION, CERTIFICATE IN MOTOR VEHICLE MECHANICS

SMA 0001: MATHEMATICS I

DATE: DECEMBER 2014
TIME: $1 \frac{1}{2}$ HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question one and any other two questions
QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)
a) Simplify the following expressions
(i) $\frac{16 a^{4} b c^{2}}{4 a^{2} b^{3}}$ (2 marks)
(ii) $\sqrt[3]{\frac{8 x^{4} y^{6}}{x y^{3}}}$
b) Evaluate
(i) $64^{-\frac{2}{3}}$
(2 marks)
(ii) $\log _{3} 27-\log _{3} 3$
(iii) $\log _{2} 8^{2}+\log _{2} 4$
(3 marks)
c) Solve for $x$
(i) $\quad\left(3^{2 x}\right)^{3}=243$ (3 marks)
(ii) $\quad 1+\log _{5} x=\log _{5} 12$
d) Find the sum of the first 8 terms of the arithmetic progression $2+8+14 \ldots \ldots$. ( 2 marks)
e) The first term of a geometric progression is 5 . If the common ratio is 3 , find the greatest number of terms that can yield a sum of less than 200
f) Simplify the following algebraic expression $\frac{x^{2}+5 x+6}{x+2}$ (3 marks)
g) A girl and a boy shared money at the ratio of 7:2. If the boy got 15000 ksh , determine the total amount that was shared (3 marks)

## QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

a) Using logarithms solve the problem $\sqrt[3]{\frac{246 \times 0.0489}{(0.064)^{2}}}$
b) Simplify $4 \log _{a} 3+\log _{a} 4-2 \log _{a} 6$
c) Find the value of x in the equation $\log _{x} 625=4$
d) Solve the simultaneous equation

$$
\log _{x} y=2
$$

$$
x y=8
$$

## QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

a) Solve for x in the equation $\frac{x^{3}+9 x}{x+9}=4$
(4 marks)
b) Express as a single fraction $\frac{x+2}{4}-\frac{3 x-1}{5}$
(3 marks)
c) Solve the following simultaneous equation
(4 marks)
$3 x+2 y=16$
$x+3 y=10$
d) Express the following equation in terms of a

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{b}=\frac{1}{c}+\frac{1}{a} \tag{4marks}
\end{equation*}
$$

## QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

a) p varies directly as q . When p is 10 , q is 15 . Determine the constant of proportionality (3 marks)
b) Ten men working three hours a day take 12 days to complete a job. How long will it take 8 men working 6 hours a day to complete the same job
(3 marks)
c) The height of a box of constant volume is inversely proportional to its cross sectional area. When the area is $500 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ the height is 25 cm . Determine the cross-sectional area when the height is 30 cm .
d) Given that $\mathrm{E}=\mathrm{V}+\mathrm{Ir}$ and that $\mathrm{E}=1.5$ when $\mathrm{I}=0.5$ and $\mathrm{E}=2$ when $\mathrm{I}=0.8$. Find I when $\mathrm{E}=3$

## QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

a) The sum of the first 7 terms of an arithmetic series is 126 . If the first is 3 , determine the common difference
b) The annual salary of a worker increases by $15 \%$ annually. If the first salary is sh. 20000, what will be his salary in the $10^{\text {th }}$ year?
c) If the $2^{\text {nd }}$ and $3^{\text {rd }}$ terms of an arithmetic progression are the $1^{\text {st }}$ and $2^{\text {nd }}$ terms of a geometric progression, determine the common ration (4 marks)
d) A man saves on monthly basis. He saves ksh. 1000 in the $1^{\text {st }}$ year and increases the monthly saving by ksh. 200 every month. how long will it take for his savings to reach sh. 22000

