



EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI)

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS 2014/2015

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

TEL 101: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2014

TIME: 16:00 – 18:00

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE

- a) Define the term language. (2 marks)
- b) Describe in details two characteristics of human language. (5 marks)
- c) Distinguish between language acquisition and language learning. (5marks)
- d) Explain the three main hypotheses about the origin of language. (6 marks)
- e) What is the relationship between language and the human brain? (4marks)
- f) “Human language is arbitrary.’ Explain what the above statement means. (4 marks)
- g) “The meaning of an utterance does not depend entirely on the it’s form”
Explain what you understand by the above statement. (4marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Distinguish between the following concepts as used in linguistics.
- i) Linguistics competence and communicative competence. (4 marks)
 - ii) Pidgin and Creole. (4 marks)
 - iii) Prescriptive linguistics and Descriptive linguistics. (4 marks)
 - iv) Code switching and code mixing. (4 marks)
 - v) Monolingualism and bilingualism. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Define linguistics. (2 marks)
- b) Give reasons why a teacher of English should study linguistics. (5 marks)
- c) Describe the relationship between phonetics and phonology. (5 marks)
- d) What is semantics. (4 marks)
- e) Differentiate between Diachronic and Synchronic Linguistics. (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Compare and contrast British and America-English. (5 marks)
- b) Describe how the Romans and Vikings contributed to the development of English language. (5 marks)
- c) Explain in details who the original inhabitants of British were. (5 marks)
- d) Explain in details who the following scholars were in relation to the history of England.
- i) Edward the confessor
 - ii) Geoffrey Chaucer
- (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Make brief notes on the following word formation processing
- i) Borrowing. (4 marks)
 - ii) Derivation. (4 marks)
 - iii) Compounding. (4 marks)
 - iv) Agglutination. (4 marks)
 - v) Blending. (4 marks)

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