



**MASENO UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016**

**THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION WITH INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY**

**HOMA-BAY CAMPUS**

**AEN 314: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

Time: 8.00 - 10.00 am

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.



**MASENO UNIVERSITY – HOMABAY LEARNING CENTRE**

**AEN 314: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question **one** and any other two questions.

**Q1. (a)** “Krashen’s Monitor Model provides a clear picture of language acquisition.”  
Assess the validity of this statement. (20 marks)

**(b)** Discuss, with illustrations, the difference between Bruner’s Language Acquisition Support System and Chomsky’s Language Acquisition Device. (10 marks)

**Q2.** “The language of a learner is neither a first language nor the second language” (Selinker, 1989). Referring to this statement, evaluate Selinker’s Interlanguage Theory in Second Language Acquisition. (20 marks)

**Q3.** With examples, discuss the sources and inadequacies of Error Analysis (EA) as an approach to studying Second Language Learner Language. (20 marks)

**Q4.** Discuss how Second Language Learning/Acquisition can be affected by the following factors:

- i) Group dynamics
  - ii) Attitudes and motivation
  - iii) Personality
  - iv) Individual learning techniques
  - v) Age
- (20 marks)

**Q5.** Distinguish clearly what the following paired terms in Language Acquisition mean:

- a) Competence vs Performance
  - b) Language transfer vs Learner strategies
  - c) Second language vs Foreign language
  - d) Nature vs Nurture
  - e) Silent period vs Fossilization
- (20 marks)