



## **MASENO UNIVERSITY**

### **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016**

**FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE  
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS WITH INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY**

**HOMABAY CAMPUS – SCHOOL BASED**

**AEN 101: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE**

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

Time: 8.00 - 10.00am

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- **Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions**



Q1.(a) Using adequate illustrations, write an essay addressing issues touching on languages and dialects, idiolects, accents and genderlects. (15 marks)

(b) How can any student of Linguistics convince a panel of linguists that the origin of language is theory-oriented. (15 marks)

2. (a) Using illustrations, outline any FOUR functions of human language (12 marks)

(b) Explain any THREE approaches used by historical linguists in classifying human languages (8 marks)

3. (a) Describe any FOUR factors that are causative agents of language change (8 marks)

(b) With reference to Kenya, assess the sociolinguistic status of languages in this East African country (12 marks)

4. (a) Distinguish the following terms using convincing examples

(i) National Language and Official Languages (4 marks)

(ii) Pidgins and Creoles (4 marks)

(iii) Speech Communities and Lingua Franca. (4 marks)

(b) How can one clearly demarcate the boundary between written and spoken languages (8 marks)

(iii) Isolating and Polysynthetic languages (5 marks)

(iv) Genderlects and Lingua Franca (5 marks)

Q4: With the aid of suitable illustrations, discuss FIVE factors that cause language change (20 marks)

Q5: (a) Account for the THREE approaches used in language classification (10 marks)

(b) Using examples, assess the debate surrounding languages and dialects (10 marks)