



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016

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

MAIN CAMPUS

AEN 201: INTRODUCTORY ENGLISH PHONETICS

Date: 6th January, 2016

Time: 8.30 - 10.30am

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.



Q1. a) With illustrations, describe each of the following phonetic concepts:

- i. Articulatory phonetics
- ii. Diphthongs
- iii. Approximants
- iv. Allophone
- v. State of the glottis

(20 marks)

b) Demonstrate how syllables can be diagrammatically represented in the following words:

- i. Tipple
- ii. Trap
- iii. ouch
- iv. sea

(10 marks)

Q2. With examples from the English language, explain:

- i. Consonants/vowels
- ii. Nasals/orals
- iii. Manner/place of articulation
- iv. Active/ Passive articulators
- v. Voiced/Voiceless sounds

(20 marks)

Q3. a) English vowel sounds share universal parameters in the description of its sounds. Describe the pure vowels using the four known vowel features. (10 marks)

b) Rewrite the following words in broad phonetic transcription:

- i. Ago
- ii. Beauty
- iii. Take
- iv. Psychology
- v. Relaxed

(10 marks)

Q4. a) With examples, distinguish between plosives and fricatives (10 marks)

b) Briefly distinguish between sounds and letters in natural language. Provide comprehensive illustrations to show the intricacies between spelling and pronunciation. (10 marks)

Q5. Assess the significance of phonetics paying close attention to the aspects of elision, assimilation and linking as realized in connected speech. Provide adequate examples. (20 marks)