

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
ARTS**

ENGL 416: CONTEMPORARY THEORIES OF SYNTAX

STREAMS: B.ED ARTS

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: FRIDAY 06/12/2019

2.30 P.M. – 4.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Question ONE is compulsory.**
- **Answer any other TWO questions.**

- Q1. (a) Describe the levels of a linguistic analysis. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain the meaning of the following notions:
- (i) Generative grammar (2 marks)
 - (ii) Competence (2 marks)
 - (iii) Poverty of the stimulus (2 marks)
 - (iv) Innateness (2 marks)
 - (v) Phrase structure rule (2 marks)
- (c) Explain the language acquisition device hypothesis. (4 marks)
- (d) Describe wh- movement in English. (10 marks)
- Q2. With examples, discuss FIVE transformations in English. (20 marks)
- Q3. Describe any FIVE modules of the Government and Binding theory. (20 marks)
- Q4. Trace the development of generative theory from 1957 – 1995. (20 marks)
- Q5. (a) Explain the terms below:

- (i) Feature-checking (2 marks)
 - (ii) Merge (2 marks)
 - (iii) Parametres (2 marks)
 - (iv) Procrastinate (2 marks)
 - (v) Logical form. (2 marks)
- (b) (i) Draw a deep phrase structure and a surface structure for the sentence below.
- (ii) Explain TWO transformations evident in the sentence.

Which girl did Peter marry? (10 marks)
