

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

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

ENGL 351: HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS

STREAMS: B.ED ARTS (SB)

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 06/08/2019

8.30 A.M. – 10.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Answer three questions only**
- **Question ONE is COMPULSORY**
- **Do not write anything on this paper**

- (a) Discuss the main concerns of historical linguistics. (10 marks)
 - (b) Define the following terms as used in comparative/ historical linguistics. (10 marks)
 - (i) Diachronic linguistics
 - (ii) Synchronic linguistics
 - (iii) Glottotechnology
 - (iv) Lexicostatistics
 - (v) Lexicostatistics
 - (vi) Philology
 - (c) Discuss the language subfamilies under the African family of languages. (10 marks)
2. Discuss the concept “linguistic universals” as used in historical and comparative linguistics. (20 marks)
3. Using the following cognate data for hypothetical languages a, b, c and d
 - (a) Explain how a reconstruction from cognates is conducted. (15 marks)
 - (b) Reconstruct the protolanguage cognates. (5 marks)

a	b	c	d
hono	hono	fono	vono
hari	hari	fari	veli
rahima	rahima	rafima	levima
hor	hor	for	vol

4. Make an elaborate exposition of the phonological changes in language according to historical and comparative linguistics. (20 marks)
5. Expound on the wave model as an alternative to the family tree model in historical linguistics. (20 marks)
-