

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
CHUKA /EMBU**

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

ENGL 312: HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: MONDAY 4/12/2017

8.30 A.M – 10.30 A.M

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Answer three questions in all. Question one is compulsory**

1. (a) Distinguish between diachronic and synchronic study of language. [4marks]
(b) What is comparative reconstruction? How does it differ from internal reconstruction? [6marks]
(c) Study the following data and reconstruct the cognate set showing how the proto-forms are derived. [8marks]
A B C D
Nuge Nuke Nukke Nug
Maza Masa Massa Maz
2. (a) Discuss any four reasons that necessitates language change. [8marks]
(b) Explain the following concepts as used in historical and comparative linguistics.
(i) Language cognates and language isolates. [4marks]
(ii) Family tree and wave model. [4marks]
(iii) Glottochronology and lexicostatistics [4marks]

3. Discuss the various types of languages according to the morphological typology using appropriate examples. [20marks]
 4. Discuss how lexical change in language occurs and illustrate your answers with appropriate examples. [20marks]
 5. (a) Discuss three implicational universals under the phonological typology. [9marks]
(b) Discuss the wave theory showing how it differs from the comparative method. [11marks]
-