



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

CHUKA & THARAKA

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

ENGL 821: PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

STREAMS: MA (ENGL)

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 11/4/2018

2.30 P.M. – 5.30 P.M.

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY  
EQUAL MARKS**

1. The syllable is a unit of supra-segmental phonology.
  - (a) Explain the concept “syllable” and “syllabification”. [5 marks]
  - (b) Present a diagrammatical analysis of the syllables in the following words:
    - (i) Man
    - (ii) Report
    - (iii) Feet
    - (iv) Expertise [10 marks]
2. Using appropriate examples, distinguish the notions phonetics, phonemics and phonology. [15 marks]
3. The phoneme may be realized in different ways. Discuss the phoneme as a psychological entity. [15 marks]
4. Discuss the classification of phonological segments according to Trubezkoy. [15 marks]
5. With relevant examples, discuss the term ‘Distinctive features’ as proposed by Chomsky and Halle in relation to the following aspects:
  - (i) Major class features [8 marks]
  - (ii) Tongue body features [7 marks]
6. Discuss universal phonological and phonetic features shared by languages following
  - (i) Phonological inventories [8 marks]
  - (ii) Language change [7 marks]