
CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATIONS FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ENGL 312: HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS

STREAMS: BED (ARTS) PART TIME

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 08/8/2018

11.30 A.M. – 1.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer THREE questions in all. Question one is compulsory.

1. (a) Define the term reconstruction and state two of its functions [6 marks]
(b) What do you understand by the following
 - (i) Historical methods of language study [8 marks]
 - (ii) Comparative methods of language study [8 marks]
 - (iii) Typological classification of language [8 marks]
 2. Using examples describe five structural phonemic changes of language. [20 marks]
 3. Discuss five tenets of the historicism theory. [20 marks]
 4. Explain the main features of the following:
 - (i) Lexicostatistics [5 marks]
 - (ii) Glottochronology [5 marks]
 - (iii) Wave model [5 marks]
 - (iv) Grimm's law [5 marks]
 5. Using examples, discuss five factors that are associated with language change. [20 marks]
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