

THARAKA



UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ENGL 101: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

STREAMS: BED (ARTS) Y1S1 (SB/PT)

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 15/04/2020

11.30 A.M. – 1.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer **THREE** questions in this paper
- Question **ONE** is compulsory

- (a) What is language? [2 marks]
 - (b) When can one claim that he or she knows a language? [8 marks]
 - (c) Language has certain general characteristics that cut across all human languages.
Explain any five of these linguistic universals [10 marks]
 - (d) Discuss the following terms as used in language [10 marks]
 - (i) Competence and performance
 - (ii) Prescriptive vs descriptive linguistics
 - (iii) Diachronic vs Synchronic linguistics
2. Contrast the genesis and evolution theories of the origin of language clearly showing their strengths and weaknesses. [20 marks]
3. Linguistics is defined as the scientific study of language. Explain the three characteristics that show the language is a science rather than an art. [20 marks]

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4. Using examples, describe the different levels at which language can be studied.

[20

marks]

5. Explain the relationship between the brain and language

[20 marks]
