

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS

ECON 343: URBAN AND REGIONAL ECONOMICS

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 19/4/2023

8.30 A.M. – 10.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Answer Question One and any other Two questions.**

QUESTION 1

- a) Using appropriate examples where necessary, explain the following urban economic terms. (8 marks)
 - i. The Todaro Migration Model
 - ii. Urban Decay and Urban Concentration
 - iii. Urban and regional economics
 - iv. The growth pole theory
- b) Discuss economic agglomeration that industries located in a particular urban Centre will enjoy as a result of being close to each other. (6 marks)
- c) Central place theory was formulated by Walter Christaller in 1933. Highlight the main tenets of the theory as stipulated in the model. (6 marks)
- d) Urban economics has mentioned that the most profitable location is the one where total revenue exceeds total costs by the greatest amount. Giving examples discuss factors that Urban economist should consider in order to maximize profit when determining location of any industry. (10 marks)

QUESTION 2 (20 marks)

- a) In reference to devolution, discuss FOUR ways through which the problem of migration can be curbed in Kenya Economy. (8 marks)
- b) In setting up an industry, Urban economist makes three basic decisions which together determines success or failure of business. Briefly discuss this decision in regards to urban planning. (6 marks)
- c) Briefly explain environmental problems associated with the growth of cities in under-developed countries. (6 marks)

QUESTION 3 (20 MARKS)

- a) Taking case study of Nairobi County, discuss sequence (stages) of planning that national government and county government can take in order to minimize the problem of traffic jam. (12 marks)
- b) Discuss FOUR harmful effects of urban concentration, highlighting the negative concentration associated with urban concentration. (8 marks)

QUESTION 4 (20 MARKS)

- a) Cities grow to tap some scale economies of large-scale operations. But though cities seem permanent to man in his short life time, they are in constant growth and decay. Many cities of the world were built during the period of Rapid City growth before 1914. These cities, once young and vigorous, have in recent years begun to exhibit the debility of old age. Discuss SIX factors that have led to urban decay in most of cities in developing economies. (12 marks)
 - b) By pointing out THREE demand set produced by urbanization, discuss how several ways through which urban and rural areas serve each other. (8 marks)
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