



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSSION EXAMINATION FOR

MASTERS OF ARTS (APPLIED LINGUISTICS)

AEN 516: LANGUAGE VARIATION AND FUNCTION

DATE: 4/6/2021

TIME: 2.00-5.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain the significance of the following factors on language variation (12 marks)
- i. Register
 - ii. Social status
 - iii. Ethnicity
 - iv. Age
- b) Make distinctions among the listed concepts: (8 marks)
- i. Variable and indicator
 - ii. Marker and stereotype

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Describe any **FIVE** features of 'women's language' as identified by Lakoff (1975)(10 marks)
- b) Explain any **TWO** theories that explain women's linguistic behavior (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Diagnose how language change may occur in different societies (12 marks)
- b) Using appropriate examples explain any **FOUR** linguistic features that may be affected by language change (8 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain any four ideal goals of a standard language (8 marks)
- b) Summarize any TWO theories concerning the origins of pidgins and creoles (12 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Critically examine the implications of Diglossia and Code-Switching for English Language Teaching and Learning