



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ECONOMIC AND STATISTICS

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS

EAE 404: ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other Two questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Due to the global slowdown of economic activities fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic, the government of Kenya wants to cut down on expenditure for poorly performing public enterprises. If you were appointed to advise the government on how to go about this. Explain five criteria that you would you advise the government to use? (10 marks)
- b) Public enterprises intend to help in securing social justice for many people in the country. Giving examples, elaborate on vital ideological and social objectives aimed to be achieved through public enterprises. (8 marks)
- c) Kenyatta University intends to undertake three mutually exclusive projects whose cash flows are given by the following table. In addition, the three projects are expected to cost Kshs. 200,000 each and the discount rate is 10%.

YEAR	A	B	C
1	40,000	70,500	100,000
2	60,000	80,500	105,000
3	50,000	82,500	5,000
4	65,000	28,500	-
5	175,000	-	-

Rank the projects and advise the university on which project to undertake based on:

- i. The Net Present Value (NPV) Criterion (5 marks)
- ii. The Internal Rate of Return Criterion (IRR) (5 marks)
- iii. Is the ranking in (i) and (ii) consistent? Why or why not? (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain why development planning in Kenya is said to be a compromise between the characteristics of planned and unplanned economics. (10 marks)
- b) Privatization is the transfer of ownership of state assets from the public bodies to private enterprise or provision of services from public to private enterprise. Different methods have been adopted in order to carry out this exercise. Explain these methods (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Most state corporations in Kenya are recently undergoing institutional reforms. This evaluation is being undertaken by National Treasury and Planning which is broadly assessing agencies projected cash flows for the period 2021/2022 to 2024/2025. The main reason being that most of them have continued to be a big drain on the national exchequer.
 - i. Explain the main reasons that have triggered these institutional reforms. (5 marks)
 - ii. Explain the main findings and recommendations from the state corporations evaluated (5 marks)
 - iii. State the main classifications of state corporations giving examples of each (3 marks)
- c) Using Net Present Value as project evaluation criteria has both advantages and disadvantages. Explain this statement (7 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) In Kenya majority of the public enterprises are not performing well due to poor pricing practice of the enterprises. The pricing practice of any public corporation is quite important if success is guaranteed. Explain the main factors that are considered when carrying out this task. (8 marks)
- b) Kenya like many other developing countries faces significant financing challenges in infrastructure and utilities in order attain vision 2030. This has called for the need of public private partnership. Explain the rationale of this partnership. (6 marks)
- c) Explain the meaning of a departmental organization and its main attributes (6 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) State and explain the rationale for the presence of public sector participation in the economy through public enterprises. (10 marks)
- b) Differentiate between a government company and a public corporation giving examples (10 marks)