



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

LANGATA CAMPUS

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENG 101: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE

Date: April 2015

Duration: 2 Hours

Instructions: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions

- Q1. a) Carefully consider the following myths about language. For each, identify and explain a different characteristic of language that helps dispel the myth.
- i) American English is ruining the English language and causing it to deteriorate.
 - ii) Some languages have no grammar
 - iii) A command of standard English shows intellectual strength, and all children should acquire it.
 - iv) The correct and natural word for a piece of furniture that is used to store clothes is 'wardrobe'
- (8 marks)**
- b) Define the following terms, showing how each may be a hindrance to effective human communication.
- i) Jargon
 - ii) Ambiguity
 - iii) Proxemics
 - iv) Haptics
 - v) Idioms
- (10 marks)**
- c) Critically discuss four distinctive theories on the origin of language.
- (12 marks)**
- Q2. a) Describe two broad categories into which the writing systems of the world may be classified
- (2 marks)**
- b) List and explain four general stages in the development of writing.
- (8 marks)**

- c) Identify five functions of writing in the modern world, and explain their relevance to you as a University student. **(10 marks)**
- Q3. Explain the concerns of five levels and five branches of linguistics. **(20 marks)**
- Q4. Critically discuss four theories of child language acquisition. **(20 marks)**
- Q5. a) With the aid of clear examples, briefly discuss the contribution of the following scholars to our understanding of the relationship between language and the brain.
- i) Paul Broca **(5 marks)**
 - ii) Karl Wernicke **(5 marks)**
- b) Briefly explain each of the following language disorders:
- i) Apraxia
 - ii) Dyslexia
 - iii) Anomia
 - iv) Paraphasia
 - v) Global Aphasia
- (10 marks)**

END