

LIN 325



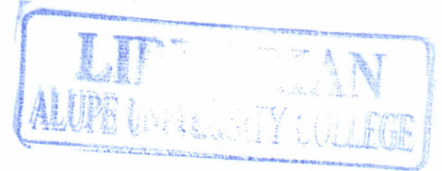
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER REGULAR MAIN
EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION (ARTS)



COURSE CODE: LIN 325

COURSE TITLE: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LANGUAGE

DATE: 5TH NOVEMBER, 2020

TIME: 9:00 AM -12:00 PM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

REGULAR- MAIN

LIN325: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LANGUAGE.

STREAM: B.ED (ARTS)DURATION: 3 HOURSINSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question *ONE* and any other *TWO* questions.

Question One:

- a) Differentiate between *synchronic* and *diachronic* linguistics. (6 Marks)
- b) Comparative reconstruction of the “proto” language is founded on **two** principles. Discuss these principles and give appropriate illustrations in each case. (14 Marks)
- c) Explain the sound changes that have occurred in Old English and Modern English as shown in the data below: (10 Marks)

Old English		Modern English	
i) Crabba [kraba]	changes to	crab	
ii) Fisc [fisk]	changes to	fish	
iii) Ful [fu:l]	changes to	foul	
iv) Gat [ga:t]	changes to	goat	
v) Læfan [lævan]	changes to	leave	

Question Two:

Curtis (quoted in Aitchison, 2001) described a major goal of historical linguistics as follows: “A principle goal of this science is to reconstruct the full, pure forms of an original stage from the variously disfigured and mutilated forms which are attested in individual languages.”

- a) In light of the above citation, discuss any **three** factors that may lead to a *disfigured* and *mutilated* language. (12 Marks)
- b) Differentiate between *language loss* and *language death*. (8 Marks)

Question Three:

- a) Analyze the following terms:
 - i) *language shift*
 - ii) *language death.* (8 Marks)
- b) Discuss the **two** broad categories under which language variation may be studied. (12 Marks)

Question Four:

- a) Differentiate between *corpus planning* and *status planning.* (4 Marks)
- b) Citing any **four** areas in the study of language, illustrate with examples the differences between English and any local language of your choice other than Kiswahili. (16 Marks)

Question Five:

- a) Discuss any **three** factors that may bring about language change. (9 Marks)
- b) Assess the significance of studying comparative linguistics. (6 Marks)
- c) *Language loss* and *coinage* are two simultaneous processes in opposite directions. Discuss. (5 Marks)

