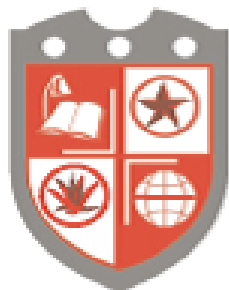


LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

ENGL 112: INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

STREAM: BED(ARTS)

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: WEDNESDAY (8.30-10.30AM)

DATE: 4/2/2026

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3 PAGES)

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions. At least ONE question MUST be from both section A and B

QUESTION ONE

(a) Explain why the sounds [j] and [w] are classified as semiconsonants and semivowels.

(1½marks)

(b) Name the consonant sound associated with the **underlined segment** and **describe each phonetically** by filling the chart below;

	Sound	Voiced/ Voiceless	Oral/Nasal	Place of Articulation	Manner of Articulation
<u>Th</u> ink					
Tea <u>ch</u>					
<u>G</u> ut					

(7½marks)

c) What is the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

(1 marks)

d) Distinguish between the production of Stops and Approximants.

Cite appropriate examples

(10 marks)

QUESTION TWO

2. (a) Describe the production of the following vowel sounds using the parameters of tongue height and tongue position;

(i) [U]

(3 marks)

(ii) [i]

(3 marks)

(iii) [o]

(3 marks)

(iv) [e]

(3 marks)

(b) Distinguish closing and centering diphthongs using appropriate illustrations.

(8 marks)

SECTION B**QUESTION THREE**

3. (a) Explain the concept of Assimilation using appropriate examples. **(4 marks)**
- (b) Discuss complementary distribution and Free Variation as methods used determine whether a contrast (opposition) between two sounds is distinctive or whether that contrast is merely non-distinctive. **(16 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

4. (a) Explain the importance of the following factors in sound production;
- (i) Vocal organs **(3 marks)**
 - (ii) Vocal tract **(4 marks)**
 - (iii) Airstream **(3 marks)**
- (b) Use the words 'peep' and 'please' to illustrate the distinction between broad and narrow phonetic transcription. **(10 marks)**