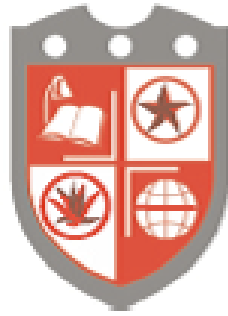


LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR BACHELOR OF COMMUNICATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES (CELS)

ENGL 112: INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

STREAM: R

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: WEDNESDAY (8.30-10.30AM)

DATE: 04/02/2026

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 Section B

QUESTION ONE

1. (a) Explain any THREE uses of phonetics to the field of communication. (5 marks)
- (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
Fa <u>ith</u>					
<u>l</u> aw					
<u>J</u> eer					
G <u>an</u> g					
<u>W</u> ild					

(25 marks)

QUESTION TWO

2. (a) What does the FORTIS-LENIS distinction refer to? Explain this concept using appropriate examples from English. (8 marks)
- (b) Describe the following vowel sounds phonetically by filling the chart below;

VOWEL SOUND	TONGUE HEIGHT	TONGUE POSITION	LIP SHAPE
ə			
ɪ			
ʌ			
ɑ			

(12 marks)

QUESTION THREE

3. (a) Draw and label the cardinal vowel chart. **(8 marks)**
 (b) Discuss the importance of the cardinal vowels. Cite appropriate examples. **(12 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

4. Sounds are modified by different speakers, sound sequences and the paradigm (position) occupied by a particular sound. Discuss how this statement applies to the following articulatory modifications;
- (i) Labialization **(6 marks)**
 (ii) Nasalization **(6 marks)**
 (iii) Palatalization **(4 marks)**
 (iv) Velarization **(4 marks)**

SECTION B**QUESTION FIVE**

5. (a) Explain the concept of assimilation using appropriate examples from English? **(4 marks)**
 (b) Discuss Minimal Pair Test 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 SIX

6. (a) How does sentence stress affect the meaning of an utterance. **(10 marks)**
 (b) Describe how intonation conveys the speaker's attitude. **(10 marks)**