

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

ENGL 211: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

STREAM: REGULAR

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: MONDAY (11:30AM-13:30PM)

DATE: 26/01/2026

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3 PAGES)

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question 1 and any other 2 questions

QUESTION ONE

- a) Define the term sociolinguistics. (3 marks)
- b) Differentiate between language shift and language death in sociolinguistics. (6 marks)
- c) Briefly discuss the following sociolinguistics concepts:
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Sociolinguistics competence | (3 marks) |
| Pidgin and creole | (4 marks) |
| Dialect and idiolect | (4 marks) |

SECTION B. TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS SECTION IS 40.

ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION.

QUESTION TWO

- a) Briefly define the term register in sociolinguistics and provide any **two** examples. (5 marks)
- b) Outline any **three** approaches to a sociolinguistics study and mention some of the proponents. (15 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Briefly describe the concept of language planning. (4 marks)
- b) What are the **four** typical ideologies motivating language planning? (4 marks)
- c) Discuss the **three** types of corpus planning of language. (12 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Differentiate code mixing and code switching. (6 marks)
- b) How do these codes add value to speech? Mention **five** ways. (5 marks)
- c) Explain any **two** types of code switching. (9 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Briefly explain language change in sociolinguistics. **(4 marks)**
- b) Mention any **four** likely causes of language change. **(4 marks)**
- c) Describe any **four** ways in which language change occurs. **(12 marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Discuss any **four** causes of language shift. **(8 marks)**
- b) Describe how language shift can lead to language death. **(4 marks)**
- c) Referring to examples of mediated languages, discuss any **four** factors that influence language maintenance. **(8 marks)**