

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS/BA (COMMUNICATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDIES)

ENGL 312: HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS

STREAM: R

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: MONDAY (11.30-13.30PM)

DATE: 11/12/23

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**

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Distinguish the following concepts:
- i. Synchronic and diachronic approaches to Linguistics studies. (4mks)
 - ii. Convergence and divergence (4mks)
- b) Describe genetic and areal classification of languages. (10mks)
- c) Explain the following terms as used in this course:
- i) Cognates (2mks)
 - ii) Language Families (2mks)
- d) Consider the word for ‘to see’ from the Central Tungusic languages:

Nanai	Ulcha	Udihe	Oroch	Gloss
itʃə	itʃə	isə	itʃe	‘to see’

Using the data provided, construct the proto form and account for the sound **changes** in the languages given. (8mks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Discuss Typological language classification (20mks)

3. a) Explain and illustrate any four semantic changes in a language. (8mks)
- b) Explain the following types of sound changes: (12mks)
- i. Metathesis
 - ii. Haplology
 - iii. Aphaeresis
 - iv. Epenthesis

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

(a) Explain any three issues which have put the classification of African languages under disrepute. (6mks)

(b) Discuss any four major causes of language change over time. (14 mks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

a) Explain Analogical creation in the formation of lexicon using apt illustrations. (8mks)

b) Distinguish

i) Glottochronology and Lexicostatistics (6mks)

ii) Internal reconstruction and Comparative method (6mks)

