



## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GEOGRAPHY**

**GEOG 313: STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF URBAN  
SETTLEMENTS**

***STREAM: R***

***TIME: 2 HRS***

***DAY: MONDAY [8.30 – 10.30 A.M]***

***DATE: 02/02/2026***

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO (2) PAGES**

**PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- (i) Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions
- (ii) Do not write on the question paper
- (iii) Use sketch maps and diagrams wherever they serve to illustrate your answers
- (iv) Show your workings clearly

**QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the meaning of the following terminologies in regard to urban settlements.
- i. Urbanism (2 Marks)
  - ii. Urban fringe (2 Marks)
  - iii. Gentrification (2 Marks)
  - iv. Urban ecology (2 Marks)
  - v. Urban area (2 Marks)
- b) Outline any four differences between rural and urban settlements. (8 Marks)
- c) Using relevant examples, explain the rate and level of urbanization. (5 Marks)
- d) Explain the relevance of the *Rank-Size rule* in urbanization process. (7 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Assume that you have been invited to stakeholders' forum in your urban centre and whose main agenda is urban waste management. As an urban geographer, discuss fundamental issues you would ensure that they are not left out of the conversation. (10 Marks)
- b) Using appropriate examples, explain the functions of urban areas in Kenya. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the factors responsible for variation in functional classification of cities/towns. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss the relevance, of the Concentric Ring model and limitations of the model. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Using relevant examples, Discuss the Concentric Ring model of urban structure. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss the relevance of the Concentric Ring model and limitations of the model. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) 'Urban transportation is both a challenge and a support to urban settlement and related urban development processes'. Discuss (10 Marks)
- b) Using illustrations, explain the relevance of Burgess Model for internal structure of urban centres. (10 Marks)