



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

SECOND YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

EEL 3250: PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Different scholars have defined psycholinguistics differently. Briefly explain any 3 definitions. (6 Marks)
- b) What is your understanding by the following concepts in language learning? (8 Marks)
 - i. First language
 - ii. Second language
 - iii. Mother tongue
 - iv. Foreign language
- c) According to Emily Dickson, the brain is wider than the sky and deeper than the sea. Discuss any four parts of the human brain involved in language acquisition (8 Marks)
- d) Differentiate between competency and performance in language use (4 Marks)
- e) Discuss any four types of aphasia as neuro-linguistics disorder (4 Marks)



MUST is ISO 9001:2015 and



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QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss some of the sub-disciplines within psycholinguistics (10 Marks)
- b) Show various factors affecting first language acquisition (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) A child acquiring a new language undergoes several stages. Explain the stages of language acquisition. (10 Marks)
- b) What are some of the speech and language milestone involved in language learning (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) How do children acquire the following linguistic skills (12 Marks)
 - i. Semantics
 - ii. Phonology
 - iii. Morphology
 - iv. Syntax
 - v. Discourse
- b) What are various types of mental grammar (8 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss any three theories of linguistics that support the notion that we are born with innate capacity to generate/ learn language (12 Marks)
- b) Discuss any four neuro-linguistics disorders (8 Marks)