



# 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 3251: A STUDY OF ENGLISH MORPHOLOGY

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) The data on this table is from Chamorro; a language spoken in Guam. Examine it carefully and answer the questions that follow

	Root Chamorro	English	Derived Chamorro	English
Set 1				
	Adda	mimic	aadda	mimicker
	Kanno	eat	kakanno	eater
	Tuge	write	----	writer
Set 2				
	Sangan	tell	-----	tellable
	Chalek	laugh	chalekon	laughable



	Atan	Look at	atanon	Nice to look at
Set 3				
	Dankolo	big	dankololo	very big
	Bunita	pretty	bunitata	very pretty
	Dafe	weak	-----	Very wvak

- i. Identify words that can fit into the blank spaces (3 Marks)
  - ii. describe how the derived word is created from the root in set 1, set 2 and in set 3. (3 Marks)
  - iii. For each set, which word formation process is at work? (3 Marks)
- b) Draw tree diagrams for the following English words:
- i. Undrinkable
  - ii. Reformulated
  - iii. Unhappiness
  - iv. Revision (4 Marks)
- c) Examine the following sentence and identify the derived and inflected words that exist in it  
 “The better students ensured that the teacher comprehended the written material” (4 Marks)
- d) Differentiate between morpheme and word (3 Marks)
- e) Give an example of each concept: lexeme, word-form, morph and allomorph (4 Marks)
- f) Using two examples from the language of your research, explain the term reduplication (4 Marks)
- g) Classify the following words into lexical and functional morphemes: loud, greed, as, June, expert, he, like and from (2 Marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain phonological conditioning using examples of words with regular plural and past tense of English language (8 Marks)
- b) Explain how you can use evidence of inflectional morphemes to identify nouns, verbs and adjectives (12 Marks)



### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Define personal pronouns and explain their four main features (10 Marks)
- b) Illustrate five characteristics of bound morphemes (5 Marks)
- c) Differentiate between adverbs and adjective (5 Marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Consider the following data: Impossible, impolite, immobile, indirect, inseparable, unmistakably, unsurmountable, inequality, inactivity and disorganization

- 1. Identify the free morphemes in each (5 Marks)
- 2. Identify all the bound morphemes in each (5 Marks)
- 3. Draw tree diagrams for the words: disorganization, indirect, inequality, impossible and unmistakably (10 Marks)

### QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Using data from the language you carried out your morphology research, explain five word-formation processes. The examples must be in your chosen language of research. (10 Marks)
- b) Using irregular verbs and nouns, describe morphological conditioning of English. (10 Marks)