



**MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

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University Examinations 2012/2013

**FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRICAL
INSTALLATION AND CERTIFICATE IN AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

SMA 0001: MATHEMATICS 1

DATE: AUGUST 2012

TIME: 1½HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)

- a) $\left(\frac{81^{\frac{1}{4}} \times 9^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3^2 \times 27^{\frac{2}{3}}}\right)^{-1}$ (3 Marks)
- b) Express $\log 450$ in terms of $\log 2$, $\log 3$ and $\log 5$. (3 Marks)
- c) Make V the subject of the formula $E = \frac{V^2 t}{R}$. (3 Marks)
- d) Simplify the expression $\frac{a^2 b + a^3 b}{a^2 b^2}$. (3 Marks)
- e) The resistance R of a piece of wire is inversely proportional to the square of the diameter d , of its cross-section. If $R = 0.8\Omega$ when $d=5\text{cm}$, find value of R when $d=4$. (4 Marks)
- f) Solve the simultaneous equations $2y = 3x - 16$ and $x + y = 7$ by substitution method. (3 Marks)
- g) Rationalize the denominator of the fraction $\frac{4}{\sqrt{3}}$. (3 Marks)
- h) Factorize the expression $x^2 + 7x + 12$. (3 Marks)
- i) Solve $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{b}{4} = 6$ and $\frac{a}{6} - \frac{b}{8} = 0$ simultaneously. (5 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Make a the subject of the formula $y = \frac{a^2 m - a^2 n}{x}$. (3 Marks)
- b) A drill is to have 8 speeds ranging from 50rpm to 1000rpm, if the speeds form a geometric progression determine their values each correct to nearest whole number. (6 Marks)
- c) Simplify $(3c + 2c)(4c + c) \div (5c - 8c)$. (2 Marks)

- d) Solve $7x - 2y = 26$ and $6x + 5y = 29$ simultaneously. (4 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

- a) Solve the equation $2/a - 3 = 3/2a + 1$. (3 Marks)
- b) The final length l_2 of a piece of wire heated through $\theta^\circ C$ is given by the formula $l_2 = l_1(1 + \alpha \theta)$. Make the coefficient of expansion α the subject. (4 Marks)
- c) Simplify $\frac{\log 9 - \log 3 + \frac{1}{2} \log 81}{2 \log 3}$. (4 Marks)
- d) The sum of 13 terms in an arithmetic series is 286 and the common difference is 3. Determine the first term of series. (4 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

- a) The equation of a straight line of gradient m and y intercept c is $y = mx + c$, if a straight line passes through a point where $x = 1$ and $y = -2$, and also through the point where $x = 3.5$ and $y = 10.5$, find the values of m and c . (5 Marks)
- b) Ohm's Law states that the current flowing in a resistor is directly proportional to the applied voltage. When 60 volts is applied across a resistor the current flowing through it is 4.2×10^{-3} Amperes. Determine the constant of proportionality, the current when the voltage when the current is 6.5×10^{-3} amperes. (6 Marks)
- c) Simplify $\log \left(\frac{125 \times \sqrt[3]{8}}{\sqrt[4]{81^3}} \right)$. (4 Marks)