



**MASENO UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016**

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION, BACHELOR OF ARTS  
WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CITY CAMPUS – SCHOOL BASED

**AEN 314: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2016

Time: 11.00 - 2.00pm

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INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO

- Q.1. Discuss the major propositions of the following theories of language acquisition noting the merits and demerits of each:
- (i) The mentalist theory (10 marks)
  - (ii) Cognitive theory (10 marks)
  - (iii) Social interactionist theory (10 marks)
- Q.2. Explain the characteristics of the main stages of the language acquisition process by a normal child. (20 marks)
- Q.3. Discuss the relationship between nature and nurture in language acquisition. (20 marks)
- Q.4. Review the five main hypotheses that constitute the Monitor Model of Second Language Acquisition by Krashen (1987). (20 marks)
- Q.5. With adequate illustrations, distinguish clearly between the following concepts:
- (i) language learning versus language acquisition (6 marks)
  - (ii) foreign language learning versus second language learning (6 marks)
  - (iii) Language Acquisition Device versus Language Acquisition Support Systems (7 marks)