



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

**FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LANGUAGE AND
COMMUNICATION WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

MAIN CAMPUS

AEN 405: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Date: 12th December, 2016

Time: 12.00 - 3.00pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Question ONE and any other TWO.

- Q1. a) Basing your arguments on the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis (1969) and Chomsky's (1976) Transformational Generative Grammar, describe, with examples, the concept of Linguistic Relativity (20 marks)
- b) Explain FIVE concerns of Sociolinguistics that make it an important area of Language study. (10 marks)
- Q2. a) Distinguish a Dialect from a Language in Sociolinguistics view. (5 marks)
- b) Explain the FOUR stages Lyons (1970) discusses on how to arrive at a Standard Language within a society. (15 marks)
- Q3. Explain, with illustrations, Bell's (1976) categories used as criteria for identifying a Language. (20 marks)
- Q4. Comprehensively, discuss the following Language Contact phenomenon demonstrating how they impact on Linguistic status of a society:
- I. Pidgin
 - II. Language Shift
 - III. Lingua Franca
 - IV. Language maintenance (20 marks)
- Q5. 'Multilingualism in most modern societies leads to the phenomenon of Diglossia and its inherent variants' Fishman (1980). Describe this concept in relation to the Kenyan Scenario. (20 marks)