



A Constituent College of Kenyatta University

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION (ARTS) AND BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**COURSE CODE: AEN 201: DESCRIPTION OF MODERN ENGLISH**

**END OF SEMESTER I**

**DURATION: 3 HRS**

**DAY/TIME:**

**DATE**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Answer question One and any other TWO**

**Question One**

Read the short text given below and answer question 1 (a) – (d) that follow.

<sup>1</sup>There was a young man who lived in a small village near River Nzoia. <sup>2</sup>This man and his mother were peasant farmers. <sup>3</sup>Every morning, the man and his mother went to their maize farm near the river. <sup>4</sup>They would work on the farm till afternoon. <sup>5</sup>Although they worked very hard, they did not get enough harvest. <sup>6</sup>The little food which they harvested would get finished before the next harvest season. <sup>7</sup>The young man made a plan. <sup>8</sup>He thought out this plan very carefully. <sup>9</sup>After a few days, he told his mother what he had planned. <sup>10</sup>He would buy a fishing net. <sup>11</sup>He would fish from the big river. <sup>12</sup>He would give some of the fish to this mother. <sup>13</sup>This should improve their diet. <sup>14</sup>He would sell the rest of the fish to the big Nzoia market. <sup>15</sup>His mother thought the plan was a good one. <sup>16</sup>But the young man had no money. <sup>17</sup>The mother was worried. <sup>18</sup>How could she help her son? <sup>19</sup>Suddenly, she remembered her cow which was giving them milk. <sup>20</sup>The cow had two calves. <sup>21</sup>She would sell one calf. <sup>22</sup>She told her son about the cow. <sup>23</sup>The young man was very happy. <sup>24</sup>He took the calf to the cattle market. <sup>25</sup>He sold it immediately. <sup>26</sup>He used some of the money in the market. <sup>27</sup>He bought two medium sized nets, two hooks and a tackle. <sup>28</sup>He gave his mother the rest of the money. <sup>29</sup>One afternoon after he had worked on the farm, the young man went to the river. <sup>30</sup>He threw the two nets into the river and waited. <sup>31</sup>After many hours, the two

nets caught some fish. <sup>32</sup>This was a good sign. <sup>33</sup>He would try again the following day. <sup>34</sup>On the next day and afterwards, the young man made good money whenever he sold his fish. <sup>35</sup>They both became healthy and strong. <sup>36</sup>The young man worked hard. <sup>37</sup>He made his mother very happy.

- a) What is the noun phrase? Use the underlined sentences (1), (3), (5), (10) and (30) to illustrate your answer. **(6marks)**
- b) Drawing examples from all the underlined sentences, explain two functions of a noun phrase within a sentence. **(4marks)**
- c) Identify and list the elements of sentences (1), (10) and (30). **(3marks)**
- d) Using examples from the text describe the structure of:
  - i) A simple noun phrase. **(2marks)**
  - ii) The most complex noun phrase in the text. **(3marks)**
- e) In the following sentences, identify the adjectives and state whether they are attributive or predicative adjectives.
  - i) The baffled soldiers explained that they had seen twenty one white-robbd bishops in their nightmare. **(2marks)**
  - ii) The athletes looked jovial on their arrival at the airport. **(1mark)**
  - iii) The tired solders seemed alert when the national anthem was played. **(1mark)**

### Question Two

- a) Explain and illustrate two characteristics of adjectives. **(4marks)**
- b) Write sentences to illustrate your explanation of four grammatical meaning that auxiliary verbs express. **(16marks)**

### Question Three

- a) State five sentence patterns and illustrate each with two sentences. Label the constituent parts of the sentences clearly. **(10marks)**
- b) Explain five functions of subordinate clauses in sentences. Write two sentences for each of the functions. **(10marks)**

#### **Question Four**

- a) Distinguish between substitution and ellipsis. **(2marks)**
- b) Explain and illustrate any four types of substitution. **(8marks)**
- c) Explain and illustrate any five structural types of sentences. **(10marks)**