



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR BACHELOR
OF EDUCATION (ARTS) WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(MAIN CAMPUS)**

AEN 101: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE

Date: 29th November, 2013

Time: 11.00am - 1.00pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO questions.

(MAIN CAMPUS)

AEN 101: INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE

DATE

TIME

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. There are **FIVE** questions in this paper
2. Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions

Q1.(a) Using suitable illustrations, explain the following FIVE features of human communication

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|----------------------------|-----------|
| (i) Double Articulation | (4 marks) |
| (ii) Arbitrariness | (4 marks) |
| (iii) Discreteness | (4 marks) |
| (iv) Cultural Transmission | (4 marks) |
| (v) Productivity | (4 marks) |

(b) With the aid of examples, describe FOUR functions of human language. (10 marks)

Q2. Discuss the nature and weaknesses of the following animal communication systems.

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|-------------------|------------|
| (i) The Honey bee | (10 marks) |
| (ii) Birds | (10 marks) |

Q3. Account for the following THREE theories of the origin of language and their weaknesses

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|--|-----------|
| (i) Divine Source Theory | (8 marks) |
| (ii) Natural Sound Source (Bow wow) Theory | (8 marks) |
| (iii) Pooh-Pooh Theory | (4 marks) |

Q4: Using examples, distinguish the following concepts

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|--|------------|
| (i) Languages and dialects | (10 marks) |
| (ii) Isolating and Polysynthetic languages | (5 marks) |

(iii) Genetic and Areal classification (5 marks)

Q5: With the aid of suitable illustrations, discuss FIVE differences between speech and writing (20 marks)