

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE**

AGED 348: TECHNICAL WRITING AND REPORTING

STREAMS: BSC (HORT) Y3S2

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: MONDAY 13/04/2015

8.30 AM – 10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Do not Write on the Question Paper**
- **Answer Question One and any other Two**

1. (a) Distinguish the following pairs of terms used in technical writing
 - (i) Induction and deduction [3 marks]
 - (ii) Description and Argumentation [3 marks]
 - (iii) Informal reports and Formal reports [3 marks]
 - (iv) Negative statements and Operational definitions [3 marks]
- (b) Briefly explain the following formal reports [8 marks]
 - (i) Project proposal
 - (ii) Research proposal
 - (iii) Progress reports
 - (iv) Feasibility reports
- (c) Explain the functions of the following sections of a technical report [10 marks]
 - (i) Abstract
 - (ii) Introduction
 - (iii) Literature review
 - (iv) Discussion
 - (v) Recommendation

2. The following results were obtained from field trials carried out by a research scientist in Ndagani farm involving relationship of environmental temperatures, feed intake and water consumption in cattle. 350 kg heifer.

Table 1: Relationship of environmental temperatures, feed intake and water consumption in cattle. 350 kg heifers

| Temp °C | Water intake in litres | Water in lit/kg Dm | DM intake as a% of body weight |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 | 22 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| 10 | 22 | 1.7 | 3.7 |
| 21 | 30 | 2.2 | 3.9 |
| 27 | 35 | 2.9 | 3.45 |
| 32 | 53 | 7.0 | 2.16 |
| 35 | 73 | 7.5 | 2.78 |

- (a) Illustrate the above results using a suitable visual aid. [4 marks]
- (b) Briefly discuss the results giving reasons for the relationship as indicated by the results on the table 1 above. [6 marks]
- (c) Discuss any 3 types of audiences, citing how you would write for each group to effectively achieve your objectives. [10 marks]
3. An international Non-Governmental organization (NGO) is interested in funding a project in your community in any one of the following fields.
- (a) Control of environmental degradation
- (b) Reducing rural urban migration through the enhancement of local-agro based industries.
- (c) Improved nutrition through the consumption of fish from home fish ponds. Since funding is made available on a competitive basis, you are required to prepare a project proposal in any one field in an attempt to convince the directors and experts from the NGO to fund your project because the project should sustain itself once the donor has pulled out, your proposal should also target the relevant technical field staff and the wananchi in general. Discuss the argument you would put forward in your proposal to convince each audience category that your project is worth funding. [20 marks]
4. Discuss the elements of a formal report of your choice. [20 marks]