
CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
THARAKA CAMPUS**

**EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS
(LINGUISTICS)**

ENGL 842: COMPARATIVE AND HISTORICAL STUDY OF LANGUAGE

STREAMS: SB

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 06/12/2018

11.30 A.M – 1.30 P.M

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Answer any four questions. All questions carry the same marks**

1. Using relevant illustrations, discuss ‘Typological classification’ as one of the main ways of categorizing language. [15 marks]
 2. Discuss the following concepts of language change:
 - (i) Phonological change
 - (ii) Syntactic change [15 marks]
 3. With relevant examples, describe how you would utilize ‘comparative reconstruction’ in comparative linguistics. [15 marks]
 4. Discuss Bailey (1973) wave model in relation to the process of language change. [15 marks]
 5. Using appropriate examples, discuss the processes of language change. [15 marks]
 6. Discuss ‘Lexicostatistics’ and the steps one would employ in a comparative study of languages. [15 marks]
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