

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

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EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

ENGL 861: GENERAL AND LINGUISTIC RESEARCH METHODS

STREAMS: MA (ENGL) PART-TIME

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 07/8/2019

8.30 A.M. – 11.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question ONE and any other TWO

1. (a) Define the following terms as used in research studies. [8 marks]
 - (i) Population
 - (ii) Theory
 - (iii) Objectives
 - (iv) Literature
- (b) Differentiate between the following terms [12 marks]
 - (i) A parameter and a Variable
 - (ii) Limitations and Assumptions
 - (iii) Qualitative and Quantitative research
- (c) Briefly explain any five characteristics of a good research hypothesis. [10 marks]
2. Discuss the sources of knowledge that can inform a scientist's explanation of behaviour. [20 marks]
3. Briefly explain what a research problem is and discuss any six reasons why a proposed research problem would be deemed unsuitable. [20 marks]

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4. Any well conducted research must have a strong grounding in the relevant literature.
Discuss the sources of literature that may help a linguistic researcher to achieve this.
[20 marks]
 5. Explain clearly the options a linguistic researcher can apply to obtain a suitable sample
for his/her research. [20 marks]
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