# The Management University of Africa



# UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS EDUCATION

**ENG 212:** 

**VARIETIES OF ENGLISH** 

DATE:

**30TH MARCH 2022** 

**DURATION: 2 HOURS** 

**MAXIMUM MARKS: 70** 

# **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
- 2. DO NOT write on this question paper.
- 3. This paper contains SIX (6) questions.
- 4. Question ONE is compulsory.
- 5. Answer any other THREE questions.
- 6. Question ONE carries 25 MARKS and the rest carry 15 MARKS each.
- 7. Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.

### **QUESTION ONE**

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

#### LEVELS OF LANGUAGE VARIATION

Varieties of a language may be determined by differences at the following levels.

## **Lexical Variation**

Different varieties of English will use different words (lexicon) for the same referents. The American English for example will say 'gas' while the British English uses 'petrol'. Kenyan English often uses 'panga' for the British English word 'machete.' **Phonological Variations** 

Pronunciation differences in the varieties of a language create what is commonly called accent. For instance, aspiration of English voiceless plosives at the initial position when they are followed by vowels is a common feature of the British English accent (also called the Received Pronunciation). Aspiration is not common in Kenyan English, as well as in many non-native English varieties. Another example of phonological variation is the pronunciation of /r/ which in Scottish English is most often an alveolar tap [r]. This phoneme is often realized as an approximant [x] in the RP. Significant variations are also found in the number and quality of consonants across many varieties of English.

#### Morpho-Syntactic Differences

The different varieties of English have numerous grammatical differences. The Standard British English does not have 'double negation' such as: 'I didn't see no one.' the standard variant is 'I didn't see anyone'. Another example of syntactic variation is captured in Bauer (2002, pg.8) who writes: 'There is variation in the relative order of direct and indirect objects when these are both pronouns: some speakers can say *give it me* while others can only have *given me it*. Quirk *et al.* (1985: 1396) say that the former is only British English, but the comparison they make is exclusively with American English.'

# **Semantic and Pragmatic Differences**

Semantics deals with formal meaning of words, phrases or sentences. Pragmatics on the other hand deals with meaning in context. Pragmatics is therefore, concerned with what an utterance is meant to do, over and above what it actually means. What a particular variety of English may mean by a text or utterance may be quite different in meaning in another variety.

When Kenyans for instance say; 'I got her in the box', this will informally mean, I succeeded in wooing her.

# Required:

- a. Discuss the levels in which English language varies (8marks)
- b. State the importance of studying varieties of English. (4 marks)
- c. Rewrite the following into standard English (8marks)
  - i. I be young
  - ii. You be young
  - iii. He be young
  - iv. We be young
    - v. They be young
- d. Describe the following sounds and gives examples (5marks)
  - i) Plosives
  - ii) Fricatives
  - iii) Trills
  - iv) Lateral
  - v) Nasals

# **Question Two**

- a. By giving examples, discus five lexical items that have different forms in British and American English
   (10 marks)
- b. Discuss five ways in which the pronunciation of American English distinguish from British English(5marks)

# **Question Three**

Describe the South Africa variety of English in terms of lexical and pronunciation
(15 marks)

#### **Question Four**

Direct translations are common amongst Kenyan speakers, discuss its effect on standard English (15marks)

#### **Question Five**

Discuss the pronunciation problems experience by Maasai to standard British English by (15 marks)

#### Question six

Analyze the procedures of standardizing English language

(15marks)