



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

ISC 204: SUBJECT INDEXING AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

1ST SEMESTER 2025/2026

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

- Q1. a) Define indexing language and highlight its primary purpose.
b) Describe two different ways in which Indexing languages can be classified. (10 marks)
c) Describe the different types of indexing languages, giving examples. (15 marks)
- Q2. a) Describe the two different types of cataloguing. (10 marks)
b) State the objectives of subject cataloguing. (10 marks)
- Q3. a) Distinguish between the following set of terms as they relate to information indexing and retrieval, giving examples where applicable. (15 marks)
1) Relevance, Recall, and Precision.
2) KWIC and KWOC
b) Solve the following problem. Assume the following: A database contains 80 records on a particular topic. A search was conducted on that topic, and 60 records were retrieved. Of the 60 records, 45 were relevant. Calculate the precision and recall scores for the search. (5 marks)
- Q4. a) Discuss the differences between pre-coordinate and post-coordinate indexing. (4 marks)
b) What are the strengths and weaknesses of natural language indexing in an information retrieval environment? (16 marks)
- Q5. a) Define web search and web search engine. (4 marks)
b) What are the components of search engine? (6 marks)
c) What is the Semantic? (4 marks)
d) Explain the Architecture of Information Retrieval process with a diagram. (6 marks)