



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2012/2013**  
**MAY SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF**  
**EDUCATION (ARTS)**  
**AEN 200: INTRODUCTION TO PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY**

**DATE: FRIDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2013**

**TIME: 4.30 P.M. – 6.30 P.M.**

**Instructions:**      **Answer all questions in section A and one question in each of sections B and C.**

**SECTION A**

1.

A) Study the following words.

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| gait   | mate  |
| fate   | write |
| site   | might |
| fight  | hate  |
| rate   | gate  |
| height | said  |

- i. Explain what is mean by a Minimal Pair in phonology. (2 marks)
- ii. Arrange these words so as to form four sets of minimal pairs. (8 marks)
- iii. The sets of minimal pairs identified in 'ii' above can be used to identify two vowel phonemes and four consonant phonemes. Identify all these phonemes. ( 6 marks)
- iv. The remaining four words share some phonetic characteristics but cannot constitute minimal pairs. Explain. (4 marks)

B) (a) Give a phonetic transcription of the following words. (3 marks)

- i. deep
- ii. peek
- iii. speed

(b) Use the words in '(a)' above to explain the concept of Complementary Distribution in phonological analysis. (7 marks)

**SECTION B**

2. a) Highlight the relationship between phonetics and phonology. (6 marks)
- b) Giving two examples in each case, explain seven ways of classifying consonant sounds using the criterion of the manner of articulation. (14 marks)

3. a) Give a description of the following sounds. (4 marks)

- i. [ ʃ ]
- ii. [ g ]
- iii. [ ʒ ]
- iv. [ ə ]

b) Write the phonemic transcription of the following words. (10 marks)

- i) university
- ii) meat
- iii) life
- iv) shut
- v) thief

c) Using two examples for each, distinguish between active and passive articulators. (6 marks)

### SECTION C

4. With illustrating examples, discuss the following concepts as they are used in phonetics.

(20 marks)

- i. Phonation
- ii. Airstream mechanism
- iii. Secondary articulation

5. Using appropriate examples, explain the role of the following suprasegmental features in language. (20 marks)

- i. Stress
- ii. intonation