



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012**  
**MOMBASA CAMPUS**

**SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AND BACHELOR OF ARTS**  
**SMA 335: ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS I**

**DATE:** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2012

**TIME:** 4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

**QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY – 30 MARKS)**

a) Find the particular solution of the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} + 4x = y$  when  $y(0) = 4$ .

4 mks

b) Show that  $f(x) = e^x + 2x^2 + 6x + 7$  is a solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 4x^2$$

3 mks

c) Solve the equation  $3\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 4\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 0$

4 mks

d) Solve  $(x^2 - 3y^2)dx + 2xydy = 0$

4 mks

e) Find a suitable integrating factor that makes the equation

$$(2x^2 + y)dx + (x^2y - x)dy = 0 \text{ to be exact and hence solve the equation.}$$

4 mks

f) Let  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2 - 2x^2 - 6xy}{3x^2 - 2xy + y^2}$ .

i. Show that the equation is exact.

3 mks

ii. Hence or otherwise, solve the equation.

2 mks.

g) The population  $x$  of a certain city satisfies the law  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{100}x$  where time  $t$  is measured in years. Given that the population of this city is 200,000 in 1980,

i. Find the equation connecting the population  $x$  and time  $t$  ( $>1980$ ) (3mks)

ii. Determine in what year does the population double (3mks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Consider the equation  $x^3 \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} - 4x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 8x \frac{dy}{dx} - 8y = 4 \ln x$ . Use a suitable substitution to convert the equation into an ordinary differential equation with constant coefficients. And solve the equation **13 mks**
- b) Find the differential equation representing all circles of radius 5 **7mks**

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Given the  $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 2x^2 + e^x + 2xe^x + 4e^{3x}$
- Assume a solution of the form  $y = e^{mx}$ , find a solution of the resulting auxiliary equation. **2 mks**
  - Find the complementary solution **1 mks**
  - Use the method of undetermined coefficients to find a particular solution. **10 mks**
- b) Find the power series solution near  $x = 0$  for the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} - y = x^2$  **7mks**

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Use the method of variation of parameters to solve the differential equation  $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + y = \csc x$  subject to the conditions  $y(0) = y(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$  **8 mks**
- b) The rate at which radioactive nuclei decay is proportional to the number of nuclei that are present in a given sample. Half of the original number of radioactive nuclei have undergone disintegration in a period of 50 years.
- What percentage of the original radioactive nuclei will remain after 150 years? **8mks**
  - In how many years will 75% of the original number remain? **4mks**