



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2009/2010

INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (APRIL SESSION)

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION

(LANGUAGE EDUCATION)

ECT 515: LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY

DATE: FRIDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2010

TIME: 9.00 A.M. - 12.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer THREE questions.

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

SECTION A (Compulsory)

1. There are three conflicting theories in reference to Language and Culture. First; that language influences culture. Second; that culture of a people influences the structure of their language. Third; that there is little or no relationship between language and culture. Considering the importance of language and culture in socio-linguistics discuss these theories systematically and convincingly.

(20 marks)

SECTION B: (Answer any two questions)

2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using either mother-tongues (First languages L1) or English (Second language L2) as medium of instruction in primary and secondary schools in Kenya.

3. Write short notes to define and distinguish the following terms:
- (i) National language and Lingua franca. (4 marks)
 - (ii) Multilingualism and bilingualism (4 marks)
 - (iii) Pidgin and creole (4 marks)
 - iv) Nation and nationality (4 marks)
 - v) Diglossia and polyglossia (4 marks)
4. ‘Descriptive sociolinguistics examines different aspects in oral communication regarding the choice, use and shift from one language to another’. (cf: Kimemia: 2009:33) in reference to Kiswahili as the lingua franca, national and official language, discuss the factors that affect its choice and use at home, communal and school domains by primary school learners. (20 marks)
5. ‘The speaker and the respondent are important in sociolinguistics’ In reference to this statement discuss the factors that may give rise to differences (varieties) of speech. (20 marks)
