



## **MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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### **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024**

**SECOND YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS**

#### **EEL 3250: PSYCHOLINGUISTICS**

**DATE: APRIL 2024**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

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

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#### **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Different scholars have defined psycholinguistics differently. Briefly explain any 3 definitions. (6 Marks)
- b) What is your understanding by the following concepts in language learning? (8 Marks)
  - i. First language
  - ii. Second language
  - iii. Mother tongue
  - iv. Foreign language
- c) According to Emily Dickson, the brain is wider than the sky and deeper than the sea. Discuss any four parts of the human brain involved in language acquisition (8 Marks)
- d) Differentiate between competency and performance in language use (4 Marks)
- e) Discuss any four types of aphasia as neuro-linguistics disorder (4 Marks)



## **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss some of the sub-disciplines within psycholinguistics (10 Marks)
- b) Show various factors affecting first language acquisition (10 Marks)

## **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) A child acquiring a new language undergoes several stages. Explain the stages of language acquisition. (10 Marks)
- b) What are some of the speech and language milestone involved in language learning (10 Marks)

## **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) How do children acquire the following linguistic skills (12 Marks)
  - i. Semantics
  - ii. Phonology
  - iii. Morphology
  - iv. Syntax
  - v. Discourse
- b) What are various types of mental grammar (8 Marks)

## **QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss any three theories of linguistics that support the notion that we are born with innate capacity to generate/ learn language (12 Marks)
- b) Discuss any four neuro-linguistics disorders (8 Marks)

