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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR MASTERS OF EDUCATION IN
MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

EME 5154: THEMES IN ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other THREE questions.

QUESTION ONE (24 MARKS)

As a consultant to the Ministry of Education in a developing country committed to fostering socio-economic development, you are tasked with providing evidence-based recommendations to address the crucial concern of social capital in shaping educational outcomes. The government seeks insights into community engagement, networks, and trust, and wishes to harness these elements to improve education and promote overall development.

- a) Examine and contrast the economic outcomes of individuals with and without access to robust social capital networks, drawing insight from the scenario above [6 Marks]
- b) (i) Investigate and elaborate on the pivotal role of the government in financing education and the subsequent impact on the overall economy. [3 Marks]
(ii) Evaluate various financing models and discuss how government initiatives can shape educational policies to influence broader economic dynamics. [3 Marks]
- c) (i) Analyze the intricate relationship between education and economic growth, emphasizing how educational policies, when aligned with socio-economic goals, can contribute to sustained economic development. [3 Marks]
(ii) Explain the potential mechanisms through which education acts as a driver of economic growth. [3 Marks]



d) (i) Evaluate the long-term effects of investing in education by conducting a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis [3 Marks]

(ii) Explore how educational investments impact an individual's career trajectory, earning potential, and overall economic contribution [3 Marks]

QUESTION TWO(12MARKS)

a) From the theme entitled: influence of cost-benefit analysis on educational investment among secondary school teachers in Meru County Kenya, develop two other subthemes that would enrich such a study [6 Marks]

b) Show the conceptual understanding the sub themes developed in (a) above [6marks]

QUESTION THREE (12MARKS)

a) Assess the efficacy of public-private collaborations in tackling challenges related to funding in education. [8 Marks]

b) Examine the repercussions of economic downturns on educational policies and financial support. [4 Marks]

QUESTION FOUR(12MARKS)

a) Explore the impact of Human Capital Theory on the formulation of education policy choices in Kenya. [6 Marks]

b) Examine the critiques associated with the Human Capital Theory concerning its application to the economics of education. [6 Marks]

QUESTION FIVE(12MARKS)

a) Evaluate different models of financing education, considering both public and private funding sources. Discuss the implications of each model on access, equity, and quality. [6 Marks]

b) Propose recommendations for optimizing the financing of education to ensure sustainable and inclusive educational development. [6 Marks]

