



UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ENG 212 : VARIETIES OF ENGLISH

DATE: 31ST MARCH 2026

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

KENYAN ACCENT

One of the reasons why Kenyans believe that they don't have an accent is because they are accustomed to hearing their way of speaking. They are surrounded by people who speak in a similar way, and as such, they don't hear any significant differences in the way they speak. This makes it difficult for them to recognize that they have an accent. Another reason why Kenyans believe that they don't have an accent is that they may compare their way of speaking to that of other African countries.

Kenyans are proud of their country, and they believe that their way of speaking English is better than that of other African countries. This is because Kenya has a long history of British colonization, and as such, the English language has been ingrained into the culture for many years. Kenyans believe that they don't have an accent because they are accustomed to hearing their way of speaking, and they compare their way of speaking to that of other African countries. While Kenyans may have a unique way of speaking English, it's important to remember that everyone has an accent, and that accents are simply a part of what makes us unique. It's important to embrace our accents, as they are a reflection of our cultural identity and heritage.

Required:

- a) List the three main varieties of English spoken in Kenya **(3 Marks)**
- b) Provide the British English terms for the following words which are commonly used in Kenya **(6 Marks)**
 - i. Uhuru
 - ii. Panga
 - iii. Andazi
 - iv. Askari
 - v. Sufuria
 - vi. Makanga
- c) With examples, discuss the common features of Kenyan English grammar **(4 Marks)**

- d) Describe the varieties of English based on geographical differences in Kenya
(12 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) English has several standard varieties. List five varieties (5 Marks)
b) Explain **five** sources of language variation (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) State **five** common characteristics of standard variety of language (5 Marks)
b) Discuss the procedure for language standardization (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Compare the Standard British English and General American English at the following levels using examples

- i. Lexical differences (5 Marks)
ii. Orthographic differences (5 Marks)
iii. Grammatical differences (5 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Differentiate between pidgin and creoles (3 Marks)
b) Explain **six** grammatical aspects that are common among Nigerian English speakers. (12 Marks)

QUESTION SIX

Describe English sociolects in relation to:

- a) Gender and social class (5 Marks)
b) Social networks (5 Marks)
c) Age and level of education (5 Marks)