



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY
REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER
SCHOOL OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES
BA LINGUISTICS, BED (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: LIN 313

**COURSE TITLE: TRANSFORMATIONAL
SYNTAX**

DATE: 13TH DEC,2018

TIME:0830-1030

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Question **ONE** is compulsory

Answer any other **TWO** questions

QUESTION ONE

a) Using suitable illustrations distinguish between the following syntactic concepts:

- i. Transformation and Move α
- ii. Structural Description and Structural Change
- iii. Internal Arguments and External Arguments

[12 marks]

b) Identify the transformations in the following sentences and use appropriate tree diagrams to illustrate the transformations:

- i. He was slapped by her girlfriend.
- ii. She bit herself.
- iii. Jane did not come.
- iv. Move!

[10 marks]

c) Explain the semantic roles for each of the following arguments in the sentences:

- i. The ice melted.
- ii. Otieno's mother sent a letter to Njeri
- iii. Isa threw himself into the sofa
- iv. A big green insect flew into the soup

[8 marks]

QUESTION TWO

Using appropriate illustrations from the English language, explain the following transformations as conceptualized in Standard Theory:

- a) Permutation transformations
- b) Substitution transformations
- c) Insertion transformations
- d) Deletion transformations

[20 marks]

QUESTION THREE

Discuss the following type of movements using sub-categories of each:

- a) Movements to the left
- b) Movements to the right

[20 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

Using suitable illustrations, discuss two types of movements from the following as conceptualized in transformational syntax:

- a) V-movement
- b) NP-movement
- c) WH-movement
- d) I-movement

[20 marks]

QUESTION FIVE

Discuss any two modules of your choice from Chomsky's Government and Binding theory using appropriate examples.

[20 marks]