



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM AND NATURAL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
BACHELOR OF ARTS (GEOGRAPHY)**

COURSE CODE: GEO 3231

COURSE TITLE: ARID AND SEMI-ARID LANDS

DATE: 26/04/2019

TIME: 11.00-1300HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer ALL questions in section A and any other TWO in section B.

This paper consists of 2 printed pages. Please turn over

SECTION ONE (ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS)

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a) Define the following terms (6 marks)
- (i) Aridity
 - (ii) Desert
 - (iii) Desertification
- b) Describe the three types of desert surfaces. (6 marks)
- c) Distinguish between continental deserts and west coast deserts. (4 marks)
- d) Outline four reasons why wind action is more effective in hot deserts (8 marks)
- e) Explain three processes through which wind erodes in deserts. (6 marks)

SECTION TWO (ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS)

QUESTION TWO

Describe the characteristics exhibited by the various desert biomes. (20 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Discuss the causes of aridity and desertification.
- (b) Highlight possible solutions to aridity and desertification. (20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Describe the effects of aridity and desertification on the landscape. (10 marks)
- (b) Explain the functions and place of trees and shrubs in arid zones. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Discuss the Arid zone vegetation characteristics in Kenya (10 marks)
- (b) Describe the causes of land degradation in Africa. (10 marks)

//END