



Kasarani Campus  
Off Thika Road  
Tel. 2042692 / 3  
P. O. Box 49274, 00100  
NAIROBI  
Westlands Campus  
Pamstech House  
Woodvale Grove  
Tel. 4442212  
Fax: 4444175

**KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION, 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**  
**FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION**  
**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**  
**(MATHEMATICS)**

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2023  
Time: 8.30am – 10.30am

**KMA 100 - FOUNDATION MATHEMATICS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Solve for  $x$  if  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^x = \frac{1}{16}$ . (3 marks)
- b) Prove that, if the sum of the squares of the roots of the equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  is 1, then  $b^2 = 2ac + a^2$ . (3 marks)
- c) A polynomial  $f(x)$  has remainder 9 when divided by  $(x - 3)$  and remainder  $-5$  when divided by  $(2x + 1)$ . Find the remainder when divided by  $(x - 3)(2x + 1)$ . (3 marks)
- d) Solve the equation  $2 \log_5 x + 2 \log_x 5 = 5$  (4 marks)
- e) Simplify  $\frac{\sqrt{xy} \times x^{\frac{1}{3}} \times 2y^{\frac{1}{4}}}{(x^{10}y^9)^{\frac{1}{12}}}$  (4 marks)
- f) Find without table or calculators the value of  $-\sin 45 \sin 57 + 3 \cos 33 \cos 60$  (3 marks)
- g) The eighth and fifth terms of a G.P are 4374 and 162 respectively. Determine the seventh term. (3 marks)
- h) Solve the following quadratic equation;
- i)  $x^2 + 15x + 54 = 0$  by factorization method (3 marks)
- ii)  $x^2 - 5x - 1 = 0$  by completing squares method (4 marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Rationalize the denominator in  $\frac{3}{\sqrt[3]{2}}$  (2 marks)
- b) Expand  $(1 - 3x)^8$  up to the term in  $x^5$  hence use your expansion to estimate  $(0.998)^8$  correct to five decimal places. (4 marks)
- c) Factorize completely the expression  $x^4 + 5x^3 + 5x^2 - 5x - 6$  hence solve the equation  $x^4 + 5x^3 + 5x^2 - 5x - 6 = 0$  (4 marks)
- d) The roots of the equation  $2x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$  are  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Find an equation with integral coefficient whose roots are  $2 - \alpha$  and  $2 - \beta$  (4 marks)
- e) Show that  $\log_{3^n} x = \frac{1}{n} \log_3 x$ .  
Hence solve the equation  $\log_{81} x + \log_3 x + \log_{\sqrt{3}} x = 13$  (7 marks)
- f) Determine the number of permutations of the letters of the word **POPULATION**. (3 marks)

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) How many even numbers greater than 50000 can be formed using the digits 0,3,4,5,6,7  
i) without repetitions (6 marks)  
ii) if repetitions are allowed (4 marks)
- b) Find the first four terms in the expansion of  $(1 - 8x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  in ascending powers of  $x$ . Hence, substitute  $x = \frac{1}{100}$  and obtain the value of  $\sqrt{23}$  correct to 5 significant figures. (6 marks)
- c) State the quotient and the remainder when  $6x^3 - 8x + 5$  is divided by  $2x - 4$ . (4 marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Find  $y$  in terms of  $x$  if  $\log\left(\frac{x^2}{y}\right) = 5 - 2 \log x$  (4 marks)
- b) A customer makes deposits of Ksh.10,000 on first January every year for four years. How much is the investment worth at the end of the four years if it attracts a compound interest of 12% per annum? (6 marks)
- c) Show that  $\tan(A + B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$  (6 marks)
- d) Find the value of  $\log_3 \frac{1}{27}$  (4 marks)

### QUESTION FIVE( 20 MARKS)

- a) The second and fifth terms of an arithmetic series are 26 and 41 respectively.  
i) Show that the common difference of the series is 5 (4 marks)  
ii) Find the 12<sup>th</sup> term of the series (3 marks)  
iii) Another arithmetic series has first term  $-12$  and common difference 7. Given that the sums of the first  $n$  terms of these two series are equal, find the value of  $n$ . (3 marks)
- b) Use the Pascal's triangle to expand  $(2x - 3)^7$  (5 marks)
- c) A committee of six is to be formed from nine women and three men. In how many ways can the members be chosen so as to include at least one man? (5 marks)