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**KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS, 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**  
**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**  
**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION(ARTS)**  
**KEN 2310 -RESEARCH METHODS IN LINGUISTICS**

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Time: 2.30pm-4.30pm

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

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

**QUESTION ONE COMPULSORY (30 MARKS)**

- a) Describe **three** key characteristics of an effective research question in Linguistics. (6 marks)
- b) Outline **five** sources of research ideas in Linguistics. (5 marks)
- c) Using clear illustrations, show any **five** purposes of reviewing literature in Linguistic Research. (5 marks)
- d) How can a researcher ensure that qualitative research is systematic, reliable and principled? (5 marks)
- e) Describe **five** factors that should be considered when evaluating the validity of research findings. (5 marks)
- f) How different is qualitative research from quantitative research? (4 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

A research organization has asked you to investigate factors that lead to poor performance in English composition writing by English as a Second Language (ESL) learners in Kenyan Secondary Schools.

- a) In view of the above, write down the following:
  - i) Problem statement (6 marks)
  - ii) **Three** research questions (3 marks)
  - iii) **Three** research assumptions. (3 marks)
- b) Discuss any **two** sampling procedures that you would apply when conducting this study (8 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

“Scholarly research is different from every day research.” Using illustrations from linguistics, discuss this statement with specific reference to;

- a) Types of research. (5 marks)
- b) Role of field research. (5 marks)
- c) Societal problems/issues. (5 marks)
- d) Research report. (5 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe any **two** types of linguistic data. (8 marks)
- b) For each of the above instruments, discuss any **two** relevant data collection instruments outlining the strengths and weaknesses of each instrument. (12 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Using examples from Linguistics, distinguish among any **four** types of variables. (8 marks)
- b) (i) What is triangulation in research? (3 marks)  
(ii) ‘Triangulation’ is the best method of undertaking scholarly research. Justify. (9 marks)