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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR
SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

MAIN EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION**

COURSE CODE: JMC 216

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

DATE: 14TH DECEMBER, 2023

TIME: 2.00 - 4.00PM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** Questions

TIME: 2 Hours

QUESTION ONE - COMPULSORY (30 MARKS)

- (a) Define phonetics and explain why a journalist should understand the definition. (6 marks)
- (b) The glottis has three main functions in speech production, state them. (6 marks)
- (c) Why is the distinction between a phonemes and allophones important to a news reader? (6 marks)
- (d) Explain the usefulness of the study of English vowels to a journalism student. (6 marks)
- (e) Provide a broad and narrow transcription of the following English words. (6 marks)
- (i) keep (ii) full (iii) tenth

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- (a) Study this sentence then answer the questions that follow;

The university library has many books but most of them are too old and outdated for use

- (i) Identify all the vowels in the sentence (6 marks)
- (ii) Identify then classify all plosive sounds as either voiced or voiceless (6 marks)
- (b) Describe the following English consonants based on their production parameters (8 marks)
- (i) /ŋ/ (ii) /dʒ/ (iii) /θ/ (iv) /j/

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Explain four usefulness of the IPA consonant chart to a student of Journalism. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how the following English vowels are produced based on the four parameters. (12 marks)
- (i) /i:/ (ii) /ɒ/ (iii) /ɔ:/ (iv) /e/

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- (a) Use the minimal pair test to show that the following sounds are phonemes of English: (8 marks)
- (i) /v/, /f/, /l/, /p/, /h/, /j/, /w/, /g/.
- (b) Using examples, distinguish between the following types of syllables: (8 marks)
- (i) Open versus closed syllables (ii) Heavy versus light syllables
- (c) The number of syllables determines stress assignment while reading news, explain. (4 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Explain how you would use intonation in reporting news and why it is important. (6 marks)
- (b) Assign both primary and secondary stress to the following words. (6 marks)
- (i) Intolerant (ii) Phonology
- (c) Assimilation and dissimilation are both positive and negative processes in news reading. State two reasons for each (8 marks)