



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**

**Faculty of Arts**

**Department of Languages**

**2022\_2 EXAMINATION**

**COURSE CODE:** ENG453  
**COURSE TITLE:** LANGUAGE AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
**CREDIT UNITS:** 3  
**TIME ALLOWED:** TWO HOURS

**INSTRUCTION:** There are four questions in this examination, and you are required to answer any **three** of your choice. 1 mark will be awarded for clarity of expression

1. Explain, using relevant examples, the differences in these characteristics of human language: Arbitrariness, Discreteness, Systematic, Specie-specific.  
(23 marks/40 minutes)
2. The theories of the origin of language provide us with several speculations about how languages evolved. Discuss any three of these theories you know. (23 marks/40 minutes)
3. (a) What do you understand by the term 'Proto Reconstruction'?  
(b) How would you distinguish between the 'Proto' form of a language and its 'Cognate' form?  
(23 marks/40 minutes)
4. (a) Give a detailed argument to support or refute the assertion that 'No language is superior to the other'.  
(b) Write short notes on the following:  
(i) Growth  
(ii) Westernisation  
(iii) Modernisation  
(23 marks/40 minutes)