



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
SCIENCE (SOIL SCIENCE)  
3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER 2016/17  
MAIN REGULAR**

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**COURSE CODE: SCH 3324**

**COURSE TITLE: SOIL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS**

**EXAM VENUE:**

**STREAM: (BSC. SOIL SCI.)**

**DATE:**

**EXAM SESSION:**

**TIME: 2:00 HRS**

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**Instructions:**

- 1. Answer question 1 (Compulsory) in Section A and ANY other 2 questions in Section B.**
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room**

## Section A

### Answer All Questions in Section A

#### Question 1

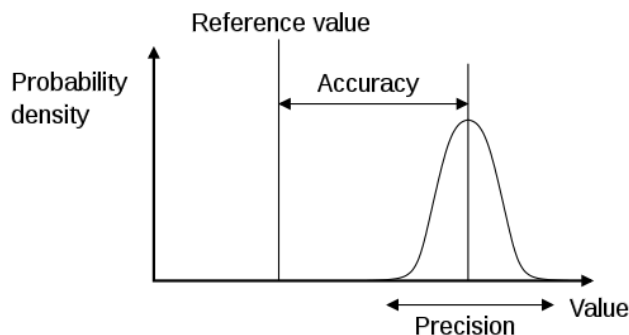
- a) Causes of many injuries and incidents in the laboratory is taking unnecessary risks; this is sometimes called practicing at-risk behavior. Unnecessary risks are actions that violate safety principles, safety rules, and safe practices. Briefly discuss some of the unnecessary risks undertaken by students in the laboratory under the following incidents
- i. Fire hazard
  - ii. Alarm from students
  - iii. Chemical spills
  - iv. Broken glass

(4 marks)

- b) Briefly discuss the working mechanisms behind the following fire extinguishers:
- i. Carbon (IV) oxide fire extinguisher
  - ii. Water fire extinguisher
  - iii. Foam fire extinguisher
  - iv. Use of sand as a fire extinguisher
- c) Briefly explain the purpose of the following apparatus/clothing towards laboratory safety
- i. The shower at the entrance of the laboratory
  - ii. Laboratory white coat
  - iii. Closed shoes
  - iv. Goggles for the eyes

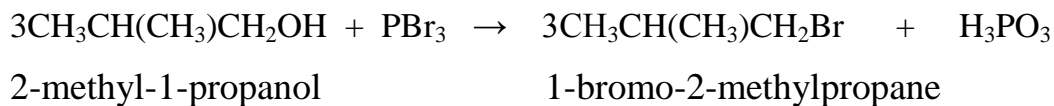
(4 mark)

- d) What are some of the wet chemistry methods employed in sample identification and quantification? (3 marks)
- e) Use the diagram below to differentiate between accuracy and precision in sample quantification. (4 marks)



- f) A measuring balance is precise to a gram. A student gave the following wrong readings. Please correct them.
- 12.300 g;
  - 0.004 g;
  - 120.0008 g;
  - 1100 g
- (4 marks)
- g) Titanium carbide (TiC) is the hardest of the known metal carbides. It can be made by heating titanium (IV) oxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>), with carbon black to 2200 °C.  $\text{TiO}_2 + 3\text{C} \rightarrow \text{TiC} + 2\text{CO}$
- What is the maximum mass of titanium carbide (TiC) that can be formed from the reaction of 985 kg of titanium (IV) oxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) with 500 kg of carbon? (2 marks)
  - Identify the reagent in excess? (2 marks)
- h. Phosphorus tribromide (PBr<sub>3</sub>) can be used to add bromine atoms to alcohol molecules such as 2-methyl-1-propanol. In an experiment,

5.393 g of 1-bromo-2-methylpropane was formed when an excess of  $\text{PBr}_3$  reacted with 6.034 g of 2-methyl-1-propanol. Determine the percent yield using the given reaction stoichiometry equation.



(5 marks)

## **Section B**

### **Answer any Two Questions**

#### **Question 2**

Briefly describe the qualitative and/or quantitative data obtained using the following analytical instruments. Discuss the physical quantity employed by the machines.

- a. Flame Emission Spectrophotometry
- b. Atomic Fluorescence Spectrophotometry
- c. Visible and Ultraviolet Spectrophotometry
- d. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometry
- e. Mass Spectrometry

(20 marks)

#### **Question 3**

- a. Briefly describe how you would prepare 16 ppm of Lead (II) ions in the laboratory using Lead (II) Chloride salt. (4 marks)

b. Using examples, distinguish between the following chemical reactions

- i. *Direct combination or synthesis*
- ii. *Single displacement or substitution,*
- iii. *Metathesis or double displacement reaction*
- iv. *Acid-base reactions*
- v. *Redox reactions*

(10 marks)

c. Water is a universal solvent and there are several reactions that take place in aqueous medium. Discuss some of the useful chemical reactions that take place in water under the following processes.

- i. *Dissolving Insoluble Compounds*
- ii. *Synthesis of Inorganic Compounds*
- iii. *Extraction of Metals from Solution*

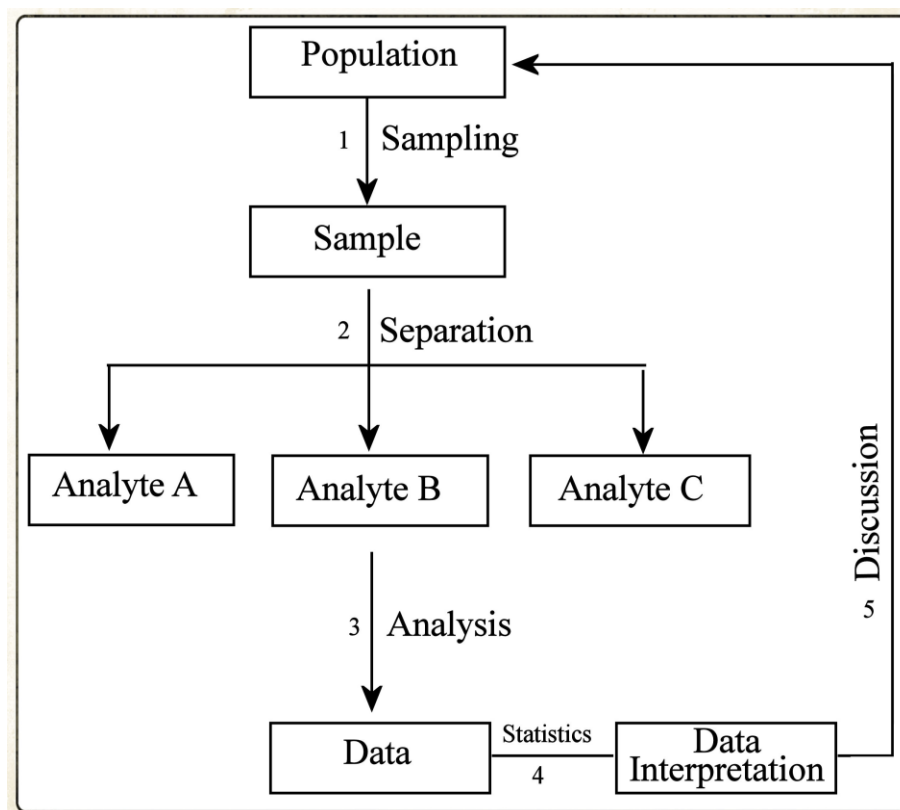
(6 marks)

#### **Question 4**

The diagram below shows different stages of soil analysis process to determine mineral soil composition. Briefly describe the stages labeled 1 to 5 under the following subtopics.

- i. Instruments
- ii. Methods
- iii. Standards

(20 marks)



### Question 5

Separation of a sample into different analytes and subsequent data acquisition from the analyte can be done using classical methods or instrumental methods. Briefly explain the working mechanisms of the following classical and instrumental methods.

- i. Precipitation
- ii. Solvent extraction
- iii. Titration
- iv. Column Chromatography
- v. Ultra-violet spectrophotometer
- vi. High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- vii. Gas Chromatography-Mass spectrometer

