



# Technical University of Mombasa

*Faculty of Engineering and Technology*  
**DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ENGINEERING**

DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL ENGINEERING  
(DME Y3 S2)

**ECL 2304**  
**HOSPITAL LABORATORY EQUIPMENT**

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

**SERIES:** DECEMBER, 2013  
**TIME:** 2 HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

- This paper consists of **FIVE** questions
  - Question **ONE** is **COMPULSORY**
  - Attempt **ANY TWO** questions.
- This paper consists of **3 PRINTED** pages

## QUESTION ONE

- (a) (i) State the Beer-Lambert Law.  
(ii) With the aid of diagram formulate a maintenance schedule for flame photometer. **(13 marks)**
- (b) (i) With an aid of labeled diagram explain the principle of operation of a double-beam optical system of a calorimeter  
(ii) A 0.160 M of sample gives an absorbance of 0.38 at 505nm in a given cell. Determine the concentration of a solution to give an absorbance of 0.45 in the cell of photometer. **(13 marks)**
- (c) Differentiate between bacterial incubation and bacterial culture **(4 marks)**

## QUESTION TWO

- (a) (i) State any **THREE** sources of treatment errors that may affect measurements of cell concentration when using cell counters.  
(ii) Outline the routine measure that must be taken to avoid the errors in a (i) **(6 marks)**
- (b) The following symptoms were encountered in a flame photometer:-  
(i) Flame shows separate cones and cannot be adjusted.  
(ii) Varying readings  
(iii) Large Flame turning yellowish  
(iv) No deflection or readings  
State **ONE** cause and **ONE** remedy of the following faults. **(8 marks)**
- (c) Explain the principle of operation of a flame photometer. **(6 marks)**

## QUESTION THREE

- (a) With reference to a water deionizer explain  
(i) The ion exchange process using the relevant equations.  
(ii) Explain the cause of blocked resin bed in (a) and give a remedy.  
(iii) State how the cause in (ii) can be prevented. **(10 marks)**
- (b) (i) Explain the difference between the terms 'SLOPE' AND 'OFF SET' as applied in Hydrogen Potential measurement (PH)  
(ii) With the aid of a potentiometric chair diagram of an electrode equipment, explain its principle of operation. **(10 marks)**

#### QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Explain the operational differences of the preparative and analytical types of centrifuges **(8 marks)**
- (b) With the aid of a labeled blocked diagram, explain how electronic speed control of a centrifuge is achieved. **(12 marks)**

#### QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Outline any **TWO** principles used in blood cell analysis. **(6 marks)**
- (b) With the aid of a labeled blocked diagram, explain the principle of operation of a spectrophotometer. **(12 mark)**
- (c) Outline any **TWO** common causes of malfunction of spectrophotometer. **(2 marks)**