

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

1. a) With the aid of a suitable block diagram explain the operation of a von Neumann computer.  
5Marks

b) Define the following terms

- i. Finite state machines
- ii. Carry look ahead adder
- iii. Combinational circuits
- iv. Dedicated microprocessors
- v. Sequential circuits.

(5Marks)

c) With the aid of a suitable block diagram. Describe the parts fitted together to form a processor.  
(5Marks)

d) Define design abstractions.  
(5Marks)

e) Describe VHDL and its functions.  
(5Marks)

f) Explain how a program that describes the operation of a circuit converts to a physical circuit.  
5Marks

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

a) Discuss combinational components and signal naming conventions.  
(10Marks)

b) Construct an adder for adding two binary numbers

$$X = X_{N-1} \dots \dots \dots X_0 \text{ and } Y = Y_{N-1} \dots \dots \dots Y_0$$

10Marks

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

a) Distinguish between Ripple carry adder and carry look ahead a head.  
(10Marks)

b) Define sequential circuits and their naming conventions.  
(10Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

a) Explain the operation of the finite state machine models.  
(10Marks)

b) Discuss memory contraction and its applications in registers and counters.

(10Marks)



P.O. Box  
NYAHU  
KENYA

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

- a) Describe the process of analyzing sequential circuits.
- b) Explain the process of synthesizing sequential circuits.

(10 Marks)

(10 Marks)