

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FACULTY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING
BACHELOR OF QUANTITY SURVEYING (HONOURS) DEGREE
PART II SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS – AUGUST 2009**

CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES AND PRICING - AQS 2205

Instructions to candidates

Answer any **FOUR** questions

Question 1

Briefly outline the procedure that an estimator has to undertake to carry out the estimation of rates from the point the estimator receives tender documents up to the point he submits the tender documents. (25 marks)

Question 2

- a) Chikukwa Contracting Company is debating whether to buy or hire a small excavator (0.2m³) which is to be kept for three years. The managing director of the company is not well versed with construction issues. The company has got two options;

Option A: Buying the equipment

Option B; Hiring the equipment @ US \$100 per hour

Advise the company accordingly given the following;-

Manufacturer's price delivered: US\$10 000.00

Hire Purchase interest @10% per year

Maintenance 15% per year

Students may make further assumptions to enable them to carry out a comparative analysis of the two options and advise the company. (15 marks)

- b) Give a short description of the components of the typical basic unit rate for a m² of brickwork and explain the procedure that estimators usually take when coming up with unit rates for items of work to be carried on different sites. (10 marks)

Question 3

Discuss the different methods of estimation and give examples where each and every method is utilised. (25 marks)

Question 4

- a) Discuss the two general methods of pricing and state the advantages and disadvantages of each of the methods (7 marks)

- b) Identify five factors that you have to consider before assessing the profit margin that can be allowed for on a project? (10 marks)
- c) Write short notes on the following:
- i) Wastage of materials (2 marks)
 - ii) Actual cost of labour (2 marks)
 - iii) Overtime (2 marks)
 - i) Differences between quotation and price (2 marks)

Question 5

- a) Give a definition of the term overhead charges? (2 marks)
- b) Why do contractors include general overhead charges on tenders as a cost that should be borne by the project? (8 marks)
- c) Briefly discuss the factors that affect output on a construction site (15 marks)

END OF EXAMINATION