

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR**

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
IN CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING**

COURSE CODE: CSE 431

COURSE TITLE: PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **FIVE** questions only
- Marks for each question are indicated in the parenthesis

1. (a) Outline the importance of the following parameters in public health engineering
- (i) Temperature
 - (ii) pH
 - (iii) Alkalinity
 - (iv) Dissolved Oxygen **[8 Marks]**
- (b) Differentiate between sorption, absorption and adsorption **[3 Marks]**
- (c) Discuss the effects of source of water supply upon the water quality and its treatment **[9 Marks]**
2. (a) Define the following terms as used in sanitary microbiology:
- (i) Autotrophes
 - (ii) Synergistic reaction
 - (iii) Coliform group of organisms **[3 Marks]**
- (b) What are the essential characteristics of a good indicator organism? Name four commonly used indicator organisms **[4 Marks]**
- (c) Determine the one (1) day BOD and the ultimate 1st stage BOD of a wastewater whose 5 day 20° C BOD is 200 mg/L. The reaction constant K (base e) = 0.23 **[5 Marks]**
- (d) Plot and illustrate the various distinct growth phases as a small culture of microorganisms are inoculated in a fixed volume of culture medium and the number of viable organisms recorded as a function of time **[8 Marks]**

3. (a) Define the following terms as used in wastewater technology and solid waste management
- (i) Sewage
 - (ii) Sewer lines
 - (iii) Garbage
 - (iv) Landfill
 - (v) Composting **[5 Marks]**
- (b) State TWO objectives and TWO limitations of the BOD test **[4 Marks]**
- (c) Define the term Sustainable development and describe the significance of the practice of Sustainable development as related to Public health engineering **[6 Marks]**
- (d) What is the relationship of pH and Hydrogen-ion activity? **[5 Marks]**
4. (a) (i) What is the aim of water treatment **[2 Marks]**
- (ii) State four reasons as to why it is desirable to treat water **[4 Marks]**
- (b) (i) Why do the COD and BOD analyses usually give different results for the same waste? **[4 marks]**
- (ii) What could be inferred from the following analytical results concerning the relative ease of biodegradability of each waste?

| Waste | 5-day BOD (mg/L) | COD (mg/L) |
|-------|---------------------|------------|
| A | 240 | 300 |
| B | 100 | 500 |
| C | 120 | 240 |

[6 Marks]

- (iii) Give four different applications for the COD analysis in environmental engineering practice [4 marks]
5. (a) (i) Explain why a public water supply is needed? [4 marks]
- (ii) What are the FOUR major categories of water related diseases? Give TWO examples for each category [8 marks]
- (b) Explain the Freundlich isotherm [8 marks]
6. (a) In a precipitation, lime is used to remove calcium hardness by the reaction
- $$CaO + Ca(HCO_3)_2 \rightarrow 2CaCO_3 + H_2O$$
- What dosage of lime of 80% CaO is required to combine with 70mg/L of calcium? [5 marks]
- (b) Explain the following reactions as encountered in sanitary chemistry
- (i) Redox reactions
- (ii) Neutralization reactions
- (iii) Second order reactions [6 marks]
- (c) (i) Differentiate between physical, chemical and biological characteristics of wastewater [3 marks]
- (ii) Confirm that the substrate removal data below describes a first order reaction and determine that rate constant. [6 marks]

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Time, hr | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Substrate Conc. Mg/L | 50 | 35.6 | 25.8 | 18.5 | 12.8 | 7.3 |