



(University of Choice)

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(MMUST)**

MAIN CAMPUS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE

OF

**BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CIVIL,
MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL OPTIONS)**

COURSE CODE: TEC 104

COURSE TITLE: MATERIAL SCIENCE

DATE: 26/04/2022

TIME: 3.00 – 5.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This paper consists of **FOUR** questions
2. Answer Question **ONE (Compulsory)** and any other **TWO** Questions
3. All symbols have their usual meaning

TIME: 2 Hours

MMUST observes **ZERO** tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of **5** Printed Pages. Please Turn Over

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)**[30 marks]**

- a) Explain briefly the difference between the following:
- i. A crystalline and an amorphous solid [2 Marks]
 - ii. Vacancy point defect and substitutional solid solutions point defect [2 Marks]
 - iii. Eutectic and eutectoid reaction [2 Marks]
- b) Using sketches, derive the atomic packing factor (APF) for the following crystal structures:
- i) Simple cubic (SC), [1.5 Marks]
 - ii) Body centered cubic (BCC) and [1.5 Marks]
 - iii) Face centered cubic crystal structures [1.5 Marks]
- c) Express the $[0\bar{2}1]$ direction into the Miller–Bravais index system for hexagonal crystals [2.5 Marks]
- d) Why are hardness tests performed more frequently than any other mechanical test? [3 Marks]
- e) A cylindrical brass rod that has a diameter of 10 mm is subjected to tensile stress axially. Determine the magnitude of the load required to produce a 2.5×10^{-3} mm change in diameter if the deformation is entirely elastic. Take $E = 97$ GPa and $\nu = 0.34$. [4 Marks]
- f) Explain why electrochemical corrosion is generally limited to metals and does not typically occur in ceramics or polymers. [1 mark]
- g) State **TWO** ways in which the ratio of water to cement affects the behavior of concrete [2 marks]
- h) State and explain different types of polymers based on the structure. [3 marks]
- i) Explain any **TWO** ways in which the electrical conductivity of metals can be controlled [2 Marks]
- j) State two factors that affect the properties of a particle reinforced composite. [2 marks]

QUESTION TWO**[20 marks]**

- a) With an aid of a sketch, describe how a coordinate bond is formed using a typical compound. [2 marks]
- b) Describe the following types of intermediate/ inter-metallic compounds;
- i) Electron compounds [1.5 Marks]
 - ii) Interstitial compounds [1.5 marks]
- c) Explain what you understand by equilibrium/ phase diagram? What are the external controllable parameters considered in construction of the phase diagrams? Explain any **TWO** types of phase diagrams. [5 Marks]

- d) A tensile test is carried out on a bar of mild steel of diameter 2 cm. The bar yields under a load of 80 kN. It reaches a maximum load of 150 kN, and breaks finally at a load of 70 kN. Calculate the:
- the tensile stress at the yield point; [1.5 Marks]
 - the ultimate tensile stress; [1.5 Marks]
 - the average stress at the breaking point (true stress), if the diameter of the fractured neck is 1 cm. [1.5 Marks]
- e) State four factors that affect the Charpy impact energy of a specimen. [2 Marks]
- f) Using a sketch, explain ductile-brittle transition phenomenon experienced in impact test [3.5 Marks]

QUESTION THREE

[20 marks]

- a) Explain factors that should be considered while selecting the material for engineering purposes. [3 Marks]
- b) Explain the term metal alloy and explain the reason for alloying a pure element. [2 Marks]
- c) Explain briefly the following defects:
- Grain boundary [2 Marks]
 - Twin boundary [2 Marks]
- d) State the seven crystal systems based on the lattice parameters of a crystal structure [3.5 Marks]
- e) Consider the section of a (110) plane within an FCC unit cell represented in Figures 3e(a) and 3e(b). Calculate the planar density of that plane. Take $R = 0.1241\text{nm}$. (R is the radius of the atom) [4 Marks]

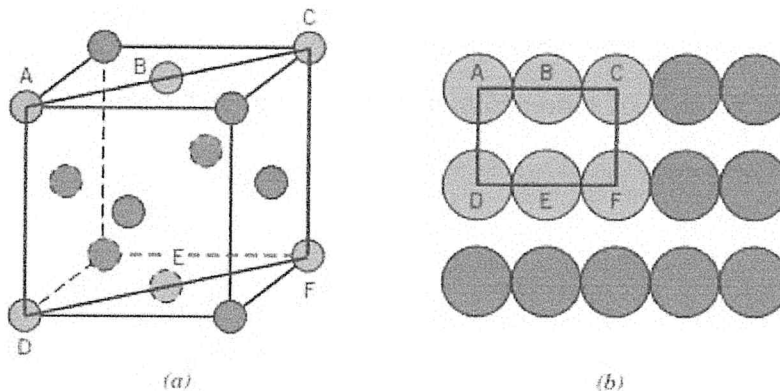


Figure 3e

- f) Show that the true strain (ϵ_T) and engineering strain (ϵ) are related by [3.5 Marks]

$$\epsilon_T = \ln(1 + \epsilon)$$

QUESTION FOUR [20 marks]

- a) Copper has an atomic radius of 0.128 nm, an FCC crystal structure, and an atomic weight of 63.5 g/mol. Compute its theoretical density. Take Avogadro's constant = 6.023×10^{23} atoms/g.mole [3 Marks]
- b) What is an anisotropic material [1 Mark]
- c) Coiled springs ought to be very strong and stiff. Silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) is a strong, stiff material. Would you select this material for a spring? Explain. [3 marks]
- d) Determine the Miller indices of directions A, B, and C in Figure 4d. [6 marks]

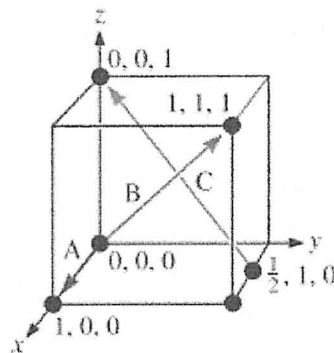


Figure 4d

- e) A low carbon steel specimen is subjected to tensile stress in a tensile test until it failed. Sketch and label fully the expected tensile stress-strain graph of the tensile test subjected to the specimen noting some key regions, points and stresses. [4 marks]
- f) State **THREE** effects of solid-solution strengthening on the properties of metals [3 marks]