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STRUCTURES I AND  
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS I

June/July 2019

Time: 3 hours



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

DIPLOMA IN BUILDING TECHNOLOGY  
DIPLOMA IN CIVIL ENGINEERING  
DIPLOMA IN ARCHITECTURE

MODULE I

STRUCTURES I AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS I

3 hours

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

*You should have the following for this examination:*

*Answer booklet;*

*Scientific calculator;*

*Drawing instruments.*

*This paper consists of EIGHT questions in TWO sections: A and B.*

*Answer FIVE questions choosing at least TWO questions from each section.*

*All questions carry equal marks.*

*Maximum marks for each part of a question are indicated.*

*Candidates should answer the questions in English.*

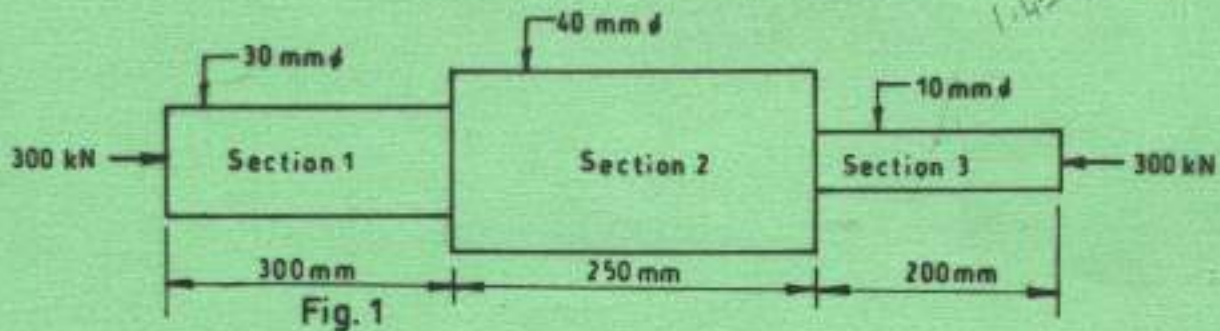
**This paper consists of 7 printed pages.**

**Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.**

Answer at least TWO questions from this section.

1. (a) Figure 1 shows a longitudinal section through a steel bar of varying sections. If a compressive force of 300 kN is applied to the bar, calculate:
- stress in each section;
  - total change in length of the section.

Take  $E_{steel} = 210 \text{ kN/mm}^2$ .



- (b) A concrete column 4 m high and 400 mm × 200 mm in section is reinforced with six No. 20 mm diameter steel bars. Calculate:
- safe axial load that can be applied to the column if the permissible stresses are limited to  $7 \text{ N/mm}^2$  for concrete and  $140 \text{ N/mm}^2$  for steel;
  - change in length that will take place in the column under this load.

Young's modulus: steel =  $210 \text{ kN/mm}^2$   
concrete =  $14 \text{ kN/mm}^2$ .

(11 marks)

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2. (a) Figure 2 shows a cross section of a beam. Calculate second moment of area about both centroidal axes. (12 marks)

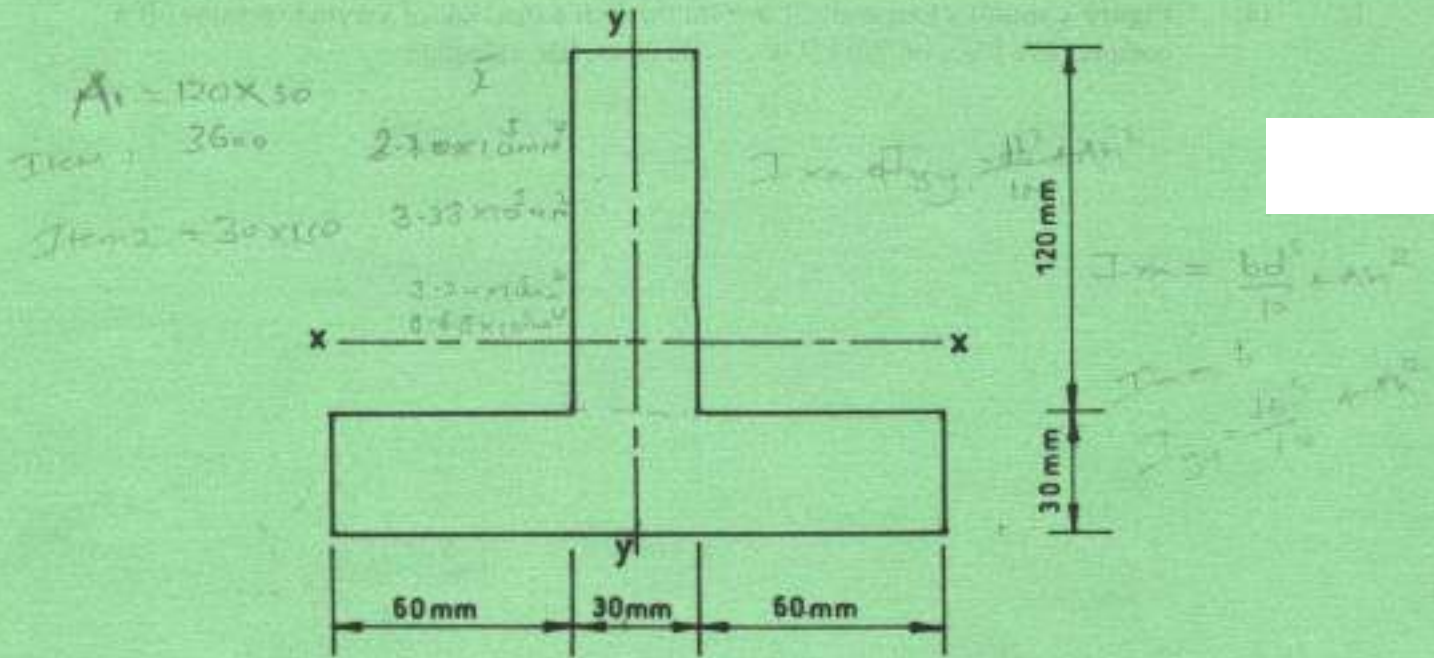


Fig. 2

- (b) Figure 3 shows a cross section through a rectangular beam. Derive the maximum horizontal shear stress. Take the maximum shear force as Q and hence sketch the horizontal stress distribution diagram. (8 marks)

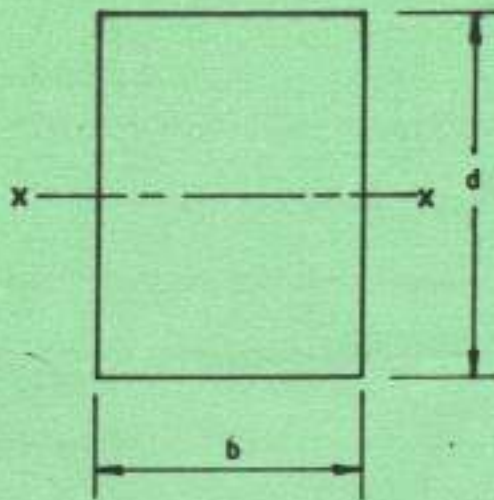


Fig. 3



Turn over

3. (a) Using the method of section, analyse the forces and state the nature of forces for members x, y and z for the plane frame shown in figure 4. (12 marks)

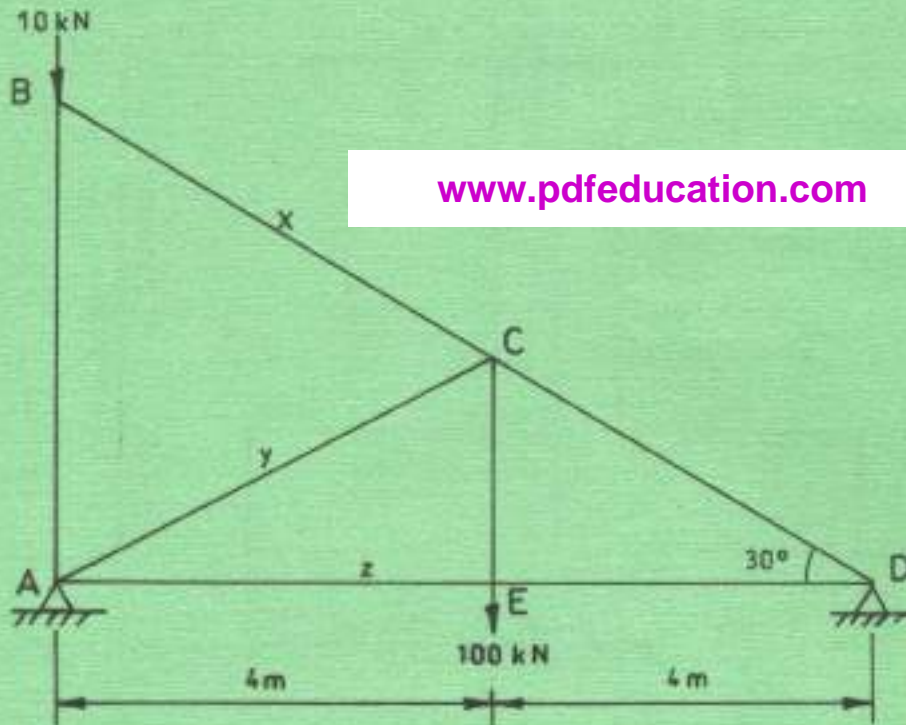


Fig. 4

- (b) A solid timber column of cross-section  $125 \text{ mm} \times 125 \text{ mm}$  and actual length of  $3.5 \text{ m}$  is restrained at both ends in position and at one end in direction only. Calculate the safe buckling load the column can carry using Euler's formula.

Take  $E_{\text{timber}} = 10 \text{ kN/mm}^2$ . (8 marks)

4. (a) Differentiate between imposed load and dead load on a building. (4 marks)
- (b) Figure 5 shows a loaded beam which is simply supported.

- (i) sketch the shear force diagram indicating values at critical points;
- (ii) sketch the bending moment diagram indicating values at critical points. (11 marks)



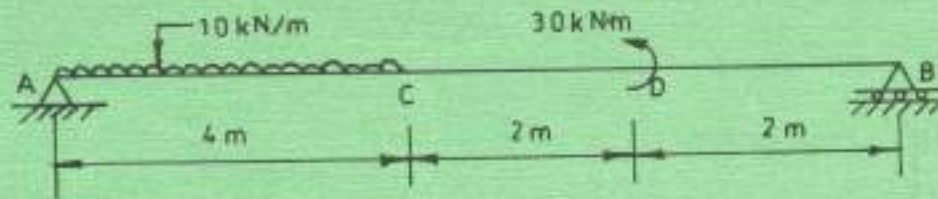


Fig. 5

- (c) Calculate the extreme fibre stress for a rectangular section of a beam 200 mm in breadth and 500 mm deep, when subjected to a bending moment of 150 kNm. (5 marks)

### SECTION B: CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS I

*Answer at least TWO questions from this section.*

5. (a) Define the term quarrying. (2 marks)
- (b) Outline the following characteristics of building stones:
- (i) appearance;
  - (ii) structure;
  - (iii) strength;
  - (iv) workability.

(6 marks)



(c) Describe the following factors affecting hardening of portland cement:

- (i) the mixing amount of gypsum;
- (ii) cement fineness.

(4 marks)

(d) Describe the following constituents of plastics:

- (i) resin;
- (ii) filler;
- (iii) lubricant;
- (iv) catalyst.

(8 marks)

6. (a) State **four** reasons for using timber as a construction material.

(4 marks)

(b) With the aid of a sketch, describe the cause of each of the following defects in timber:

- (i) bowing;
- (ii) cupping;
- (iii) warping;
- (iv) springing.

(10 marks)

(c) Explain the function of each of the following materials in the manufacture of glass:

- (i) silica;
- (ii) broken glass;
- (iii) soda ash.

(6 marks)

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7. (a) Name **four** defects in painting. (2 marks)
- (b) Explain the function of each of the following oil paint gradients:
- (i) base;
  - (ii) vehicle;
  - (iii) pigment;
  - (iv) solvent. (8 marks)
- (c) State **six** properties of bituminous materials. (6 marks)
- (d) Explain the function of the following materials in construction industry:
- (i) bitumen felt;
  - (ii) tar macadam. (4 marks)
8. (a) Differentiate between ferrous and non-ferrous metals. (4 marks)
- (b) State **six** defects in bricks. (6 marks)
- (c) Describe the **three** geological formation of rocks. (6 marks)
- (c) Describe the following types of heat treatments in steel:
- (i) annealing;
  - (ii) hardening. (4 marks)



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