



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST YEAR SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 0103: LANGUAGE USE IN LITERATURE

DATE:

TIME:

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**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**

## SECTION A: COMPULSORY (30 MARKS)

1. a) With relevant examples explain the difference between literal and written literary language (10 marks)
- b) Using examples, explain any five functions of language in literature (20 marks)

## SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS.

2. Using appropriate illustrations discuss any **five** sound patterns employed in poetry. (20 marks)
3. Citing illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House explain the extent to which symbolism has been used to communicate the writer's message. (20 marks)
4. Discuss the significance of the title of John Steinbeck's text The Pearl showing its significance to the content of the text. (20 marks)
5. **Read the poem below then answer the questions that follow.** (20 marks)

### Riding Chinese Machines

There are beasts in this city  
they creak and they crank  
and groan from first dawn  
when their African-tongued masters wake  
to guide them lax and human-handed

through the late rush  
when they're handled down and un-animated  
still as we sleep, towering or bowing  
always heavy

We pour cement through the cities  
towns, through the wild  
onwards, outwards  
like fingers of eager hands  
stretched across the earth  
dug in

The lions investigate  
and buried marvel rumbles  
squeezed for progress

*By Liyou Mesfin Libsekal*

**Questions**

- a) Briefly describe what the poem is about. (3 marks)
- b) Explain the poet's attitude towards the beasts in the city. (3 marks)
- c) Comment on the use of symbolism in the poem. (3 marks)
- d) Explain the irony of the type of development described in the poem. (3 marks)
- e) Explain the meaning of the following lines in the poem. (4 marks)
- i. When their African-tongued masters wake to guide them.
- ii. The lions investigate and buried marvel rumbles squeezed for progress.
- f) Identify and explain **one** theme tackled in the poem. (2 marks)
- g) Explain the significance of the title to the poem. (2 marks)