



**MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**  
University Examinations for 2019/2020 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 102: INTRODUCTION TO EAST AFRICAN ORAL LITERATURE**

**DATE: 20/1/2021**

**TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

*This paper consists of FIVE questions*

*Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper*

**SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)**

1. a) Explain the distinguishing features of short formulaic forms and provide an example for each. (10 marks)
- b) Using ample illustrations from your community, examine the nature and function of oral literature in the East African region. (20 marks)

**SECTION B**

2. With the help of relevant examples, explain the qualities of a good story teller. (20 marks)
3. “Oral literature helps us to understand and interpret our history”. Using any legend from your community evaluate the validity of this statement. (20 marks)
4. Discuss FIVE common challenges a researcher in oral literature is likely to encounter when conducting field work in East Africa. (20 marks)
5. Using examples, examine how gender roles are played out in any genre of oral literature studied in this class. (20 marks)