



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

APRIL SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

ALT 202: A SURVEY OF AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question One and Any Other Two.

1. a) What theme do you find predominant in African literature? Explain. (10 marks)

 b) Using 4 texts studied in this course, discuss how African writers help you understand Chinua Achebe's ideas on the significance of the African story in "The Empire Fights Back" in his *Home and Exile*. (20 marks)
2. Using at least 5 poems that appear in *When Bullets Begin to Flower*, an anthology edited by Margaret Dickinson, discuss how poets engage with the histories of Portuguese colonised countries. (20 marks)
3. **Either**
 a) Using either Mariama Ba's *So Long a Letter* or Chimamanda Adiche's *A Half of a Yellow Sun*, demonstrate the unique challenges that African women writers engage with. (20 marks)

 Or

 b) Using Ferdinand Oyono's *Houseboy* and Jose Luandino Viera's *The Real Life of Domingos Xavier*, discuss colonialism as imagined by African male authors. (20 marks)
4. Discuss how John Ruganda's drama explores the challenges of post-independent African states. (20 marks)
5. How does Alex la Guma address apartheid injustices in *A Walk in the Night*. (20 marks)