



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) AND BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 202: SURVEY OF AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: 9/5/2019

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

NB: Do NOT use the same text for different questions

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

1. a) “It is not possible to speak of African literature as a standardised body of art.”
Using examples from TWO texts studied in this course explain the truth in this statement. (15 marks)
- b) Examine the challenges of politics and political leadership in the African continent with reference to Achebe’s *A Man of the People*. (15 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

2. “Both Mujila’s *Tram 83* and Armah’s *The Beautiful ones are not yet Born* tackle issues of morality in African literature.” Discuss the various ways through which the writers communicate the same. (20 marks)
3. Evaluate the challenges of the American dream as represented through the main characters in *We Need New Names* and *Behold the Dreamers*. (20 marks)
4. Examine the different ways through which women are discriminated against in Dangarembga’s and Chimamanda’s texts. (20 marks)
5. Discuss the use of descriptive language in Bessie Head’s and Elechi Amadi’s novels as an attempt to portray an ideal African setting. (20 marks)



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DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 417: MAJOR LITERARY MOVEMENTS

DATE: 9/5/2019

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)(30 MARKS)

1. a) Using examples from texts read in this course, differentiate between the Romantic literary movement and the Victorian one. (15 marks)
- b) With illustrations from TWO sonnets, discuss the key issues of William Shakespeare's poetry. (15 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

2. Examine FOUR key lessons learnt from Fyodor Dostoevsky's novel *Crime and Punishment*? (20 marks)
3. "A true tragedy should evoke pity and fear on the part of the audience". Evaluate your understanding of this statement with illustrations from any play by Sophocles. (20 marks)
4. With reference to TWO writers, discuss the importance of the Harlem Renaissance to the growth of African American literature. (20 marks)
5. "Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, has elicited mixed interpretations because of its symbolic significance." Examine some of the major symbols and their significance. (20 marks)



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DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 401: AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

NB: Do NOT use the same text for different questions

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY) (20 MARKS)

1. a) Attempt a definition of African literature with reference to THREE key issues covered in this course. (10 marks)
- b) Examine the theme of cultural conflict as brought out in Achebe's *Arrow of God*. (20 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

2. With illustrations from EITHER La Guma's or Fugard's texts, discuss the impact of apartheid to South African citizens. (20 marks)
3. Examine the use of the journey motif as an allegory for corruption in Africa as explored in Armah's *The Beautiful ones are not yet Born*. (20 marks)
4. Using Bessie Head's *Maru* OR Bulawayo's *We Need New Names*, discuss the challenges of women emancipation as captured in African literature. (20 marks)
5. Evaluate the presentation of Ihuoma as a tragic character in *The Concubine*. (20 marks)



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SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

MASTER OF ARTS (LITERATURE)

ALT 507: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY) (20 MARKS)

1. “Violence in African American Literature reflects certain historical conditions and circumstances.” Discuss using adequate illustrations from texts studied in this course.
(20 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

2. Examine FIVE key issues reflected in African American poetry as captured in the poetry of Langston Hughes and Tupac Shakur.
(20 marks)
3. “Slavery and slave trade is demeaning to both the slave and the slave owner.” With reference to *The Narrative of Fredrick Douglass* examine the meaning of this statement.
(20 marks)
4. Using BOTH *The Colour Purple* and *The Bluest Eye*, examine the tragedy of the African American society.
(20 marks)
5. Using ample illustrations from *Native Son* and *Go Tell it on the Mountains*, discuss the theme of alienation.
(20 marks)



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SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

PHD IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

AEN 912: LANGUAGE, IDEOLOGY AND POWER

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

1. a) Explain ways through which language use demonstrates social power abuse, dominance, and inequality. (10 marks)
- b) With reference to (a) above, provide tangible examples to illustrate how gender and other social inequalities are re-enacted, reproduced, and resisted through language use. (10 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

2. Using Van Dijk's macro versus micro aspects of social order, differentiate between ideology and hegemony as used in applied linguistics. (20 marks)
3. "Social media and brand advertising has great impact on power and image struggles." As an applied linguist, evaluate the use of language in social media or advertising and how it contributes to body shaming. (20 marks)
4. Discuss the axis between language use, hate speech and acts of terrorism in the context of Applied Linguistics. (20 marks)
5. Using illustrations, analyse common rhetorical devices used by Kenyan politicians to make impact on the common public. (20 marks)