



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

DECEMBER SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

ALT 0103: NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF LITERATURE

DATE: SCHOOLBASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question ONE and any OTHER TWO

1.
 - a) Giving specific examples, explain FIVE functions of literature (10 marks)
 - b) With appropriate examples from any TWO texts studied in this course, briefly discuss the following elements of literature:
 - i) rhythm and rhyme
 - ii) figurative language
 - iii) sound patterns
 - iv) dramatic monologue
 - v) Tragedy and comedy (20 marks)
2.
 - a) With reference to ONE text you are familiar with, discuss the constituent parts of a novel. (8 marks)
 - b) By making reference to a novel you have studied, draw a distinction between
 - i) round and flat characters
 - ii) dynamic and shadow characters
 - iii) antagonist and protagonist (12 marks)

3. With regard to at least one text, explain how:
- a) literary works both reflect and challenge the spirit of the times in which they were written (10 marks)
 - b) the characters are representational of the people from the time and place in which they were written (10 marks)
4. a) ‘literature is a voice for social commentary’. Explain your understanding of this statement by making reference to any ONE text discussed in this course (10 marks)
- b) By making reference to a text, explain the extent to which meaning of a literary work can change over time (10 marks)
5. a) “The ‘plot’ is the backbone of a literary text . Explain this statement in the context of any ONE text discussed in this course. (10 marks)
- b). “Character and characterization are crucial elements in literature”. Justify this statement with close reference to any ONE text studied in this course (10 marks)