



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS
THIRD-YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)
BACHELOR OF ARTS
ALT 303: THEORY & HISTORY OF LITERATURE

DATE: 18/4/2023

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One (Compulsory) and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS) COMPULSORY

- a) A literary text is incomplete until it is read? Discuss this assertion in relation to Reader Response theory. (15 marks)
- b) Discuss, with examples, THREE characteristics of Victorian poetry (15 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Analyze William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* through a formalist lens.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

With examples from TWO texts read in class, explore the major tenets of the Feminist theory.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

What are the shortcomings of Plato's and Aristotle's arguments if one were to address the role of literature and writers in contemporary society?

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Attempt a Marxist interpretation of *Weep Not, Child* by Ngugi Wa Thiong'o