



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2022/2023

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE

ALT507: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

DATE:16/12/2022

TIME: 2:00 – 5:00P.M

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

QUESTION ONE (20MARKS)

With the help of ample illustrations, examine how African American writers have used the genre of self-writing to reconstruct selfhood and victimhood.

QUESTION TWO (20MARKS)

Using writers or artists of choice, discuss the salient features of the Harlem renaissance as an important epoch in African American literature.

QUESTION THREE (20MARKS)

African American women writing is characterised by a sense of urgency and agency. With reference to female authors of choice, validate the truth in this statement.

QUESTION FOUR (20MARKS)

With reference to texts/writers of choice, evaluate the significance of the American dream as an important motif in African American literature.

QUESTION FIVE (20MARKS)

Using ample illustrations from James Baldwin's works, discuss how the author uses writing as a tool to deconstruct religious white supremacy and discrimination.