



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT101: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES

DATE: 3/12/2019

TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Using examples from texts studied in this course, illustrate the distinguishing features of the genres of literature. (15 marks)
- b) Examine the aspects of rhythm as utilised in the following poem. (15 marks)

Will there really be a morning?

by Emily Dickinson

Will there really be a "Morning"?
Is there such a thing as "Day"?
Could I see it from the mountains
If I were as tall as they?

Has it feet like Water lilies?
Has it feathers like a Bird?
Is it brought from famous countries
Of which I have never heard?

Oh some Scholar! Oh some Sailor!
Oh some Wise Men from the skies!
Please to tell a little Pilgrim
Where the place called "Morning" lies!

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Using any ONE play studied in this course, explain the dramatic structure and how it conveys the key issues of the playwright.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

In reference to Samuel Wachira's *A Spider's Web*, examine the theme of drug menace among the youth.

Examination Irregularity is punishable by expulsion

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Discuss the symbolic significance of the statement that “*(the White man) has put a knife on the things that held us together and we have fallen apart.*” in the context of Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart*.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Examine FOUR different terrorists as explored in Mbugua’s *Terrorists of the Aberdare*.



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SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 200: EAST AFRICAN PROSE

DATE: 28/11/2019

TIME: 2.00-4.00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Using Kombani's *The Last Villains of Molo*, examine the use of irony as a stylistic device to downplay the tragedy of tribal clashes. (15 marks)
- b) Explain the growth of the central character in Mohamed's *Black Mamba Boy* as spurred by social transformations of the region at large. (15 marks)

SECTION B: (ALL ANSWERS IN THIS SECTION SHOULD AT LEAST BE 2 PAGES LONG)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Using examples from Kulet's *Vanishing Herds* and Mbugua's *Different Colours*, examine how socio-political strife affects communities in East Africa.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

With reference to Mtombwa's *Dare salaam by Night* and Kirihamiti's *My Life in Crime*, evaluate moral degeneration as a resultant effect of urbanisation.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Examine the central conflict in both *White Teeth* by Okot P'Bitek and *A Grain of Wheat* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using John Habwe's *Kovu Moyoni*, discuss the challenges women face in the East African context.



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THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 305: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN NOVEL

DATE: 2/12/2019

TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) “Questions of identity and reconstruction of the self are central to the African American novel.” Using examples from *The Narrative of Fredrick Douglass* explain the validity of this statement. (15 marks)
- b) Using Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye* discuss the challenges of women in violent historical contexts. (15 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Using Dubois *Native Son*, examine the effects of racial discrimination and subjugation in the African American context.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Discuss how Alice Walker’s *The Colour Purple* explores the subject of sex and sexuality as a form of violence against women.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Evaluate the narrative strategies adopted in Maya Angelou’s autobiographical text *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using James Baldwin’s *Go Tell it on the Mountain*, discuss FOUR aspects of style adopted in the rendition of the narrative.



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AUGUST SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

MASTER OF ARTS IN KISWAHILI

AKS 503: THEORIES OF LITERARY CRITICISM AND TEXTUAL ANALYSIS

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

NB: Do NOT use the same texts for different questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) “Literary theory is an unavoidable part of studying literature and criticism.” Discuss (10 marks)
- b) Where, in your opinion, should the emphasis of feminist literary theory lie: on issues of representation (however broadly conceived); on women writers; on women's history and present (on their material existence today and in the past, on current and historical oppression)? Illustrate your answer. (20 marks)

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

Psychoanalysts are concerned about regression, projection, fear of death, sexuality among others as primary indicators of psychological identity. Use any text studied in class to demonstrate your understanding of this statement.

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

Evaluate the main tenets of postcolonialism and specifically the role of otherness using any text studied in this course.

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

What are the main concerns of formalist critics? Use any text to illustrate your answer.

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

Using examples from texts in this course, examine the main differences between deconstructive reading and that of structuralists.



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AUGUST SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

MASTER OF LITERATURE

ALT 504: ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: SCHOOL BASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

“Research methods do not tell us what is being researched rather the circumstances under which the researcher met the product of research”. Illustrate how this is true to fieldwork research in oral literature.

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Examine the aesthetic role of the oral artist in the interplay between performance and audience in oral literature.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Evaluate the various ways through which oral literature can be captured, recorded and archived for future utilisation.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

With examples, explain some of the common forms through which oral literature has metamorphosed into and is performed in contemporary settings.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

“Performance allows for verbal variability and dynamism which makes it easier to interpret the intent of a text that is orally performed than one which is written down”. Discuss the centrality of performance in oral literature.



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AUGUST SESSION EXAMINATION FOR

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

AEN 905: APPLIED LINGUISTICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

DATE: SCHOOL BASED

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Draft a course description and sketch outline for the following course: AEN900: Introduction to PhD Studies in Applied Linguistics. (10 marks)
- b) Examine the role of BOTH the supervisor and the supervisee for an effective supervision interaction. (20 marks)

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

Discuss the role of an applied linguist in community and knowledge extension.

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

Explain FIVE considerations you would put in place to host a seminar or conference on language.

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

“The doctorate requires a candidate to undertake research at the most advanced academic levels culminating in the submission, assessment, and acceptance of a thesis.” Explain what is meant by this statement.

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

Examine the politics of curriculum development in Kenya and some of the ways through which they can be overcome.