



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

AEN 301: DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

DATE: 3/12/2019

TIME: 8.30-10.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Study the text below and use it to explain any FIVE features of context. Answers should be accompanied by appropriate examples from the text. (20 marks)
- b) Explain any FOUR ways the text achieves cohesion. (10 marks)

Daouda,

You are chasing after a woman who has remained the same, Daouda, despite the intense ravages of suffering. You, who have loved me, who love me still – I don't doubt it – try to understand me. My conscience is not accommodating enough to make me to marry you, when only esteem, justified by your many qualities, pulls me towards you. I can offer you nothing else, even though you deserve everything. Esteem is not enough for marriage, whose snares I know from experience. And then the existence of your wife and children complicates the situation. Abandoned yesterday because of a woman, I cannot lightly bring myself between you and your family.

You think the problem of polygamy is a simple one. Those who are involved in it know the constraints, the lies, the injustices that weigh down their consciences in return for the ephemeral joys of change. I am sure you are motivated by love, a love that existed well before your marriage and that fate has not been able to satisfy. It is with infinite sadness and tear-filled eyes that I offer you my friendship. Dear Daouda, please accept it. It is with great pleasure that I shall continue to welcome you to my house.

Shall I hope to see you again?

Ramatoulaye.

From *So Long A Letter* by Mariam Ba

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Read the text below and use it to explain five ways spoken discourse differs from written discourse.

Later in the evening Clarke and Wade drove to the hospital again. They did not see the patient or the doctor; but Sister Warner told them there was no change. For the first time since it all started Tony Clarke felt anxious. They drove back in silence.

There was a court messenger outside his bungalow when he got home.

“Deven sah,” said the man.

“Good evening,” replied Clarke.

“De witch-doctor from Umuaro don come.” There was fear in his voice as though he was reporting the arrival of smallpox in the village.

“I beg your pardon.”

The man gave more details and it was only then that Clarke understood he was speaking about Ezeulu.

“Lock him up in the guardroom till morning.” Clarke made to enter the bungalow.

“Massa say make I putam for goddloom?”

“That is what I said,” shouted Clarke. “Are you deaf?”

“No be say I deaf sah but...”

“Get out!”

The messenger sent people to sweep the guardroom and spread a new mat in it so that it might be taken for a guest-room. Then he went to Ezeulu who had been sitting in the Courtroom with Obika since their arrival and spoke nicely to him.

From *Arrow of God* by Chinua Achebe

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Define the Co-operative Principle and clearly how its four maxims guide successful conversations.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

‘It is possible to do things with word’. With reference to declaratives and performatives, explain the validity of this statement with reference to the Speech Act Theory.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Spoken discourse is characterized by hierarchically-ordered communicative units. Discuss this proposition, citing appropriate examples.