



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2019/2020
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

ALT 101: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES

Date:

Time:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One (Compulsory) and Any Other Two Questions

1. a) Explain why, in your view, it is important for a student of literature to have sound knowledge of literary genres. (18 Marks)
b) Discuss the characteristics of prose fiction as a genre of Literature (12 Marks)
2. With reference to a novel studied in this course show how the study of character is important to understanding the meaning of the novel. (20Marks)
3. Discuss the development of the main theme in Francis Imbuga's *The Successor*. (20Marks)
4. Distinguish between plot and story and discuss how Ken Saro Wiwa's *Africa Kills her Sun*. (20 Marks)
5. Analyse the following poem(20 Marks)

My Grandmother's House by Kamala Das

There is a house now far away where once
I received love . . . that woman died,
The house withdrew into silence, snakes moved
Among books I was then too young
To read, and my blood turned cold like the moon,
How often I think of going
There, to peer through blind eyes of windows or
Just listen to the frozen air,



Or in wild despair, pick an armful of
Darkness to bring it here to lie
Behind my bedroom door like a brooding
Dog . . . you cannot believe, darling,
Can you, that I lived in such a house and
Was proud, and loved . . . I who have lost
My way and beg now at strangers' doors to
Receive love, at least in small change?

