



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2019/2020

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

ALT101: INTRODUCTION TO ORAL LITERATURE

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO

QUESTION ONE (30Marks)

1a) Define Oral Literature (2mks)

b) Discuss THREE characteristics of Oral literature (9mks).

c) Explain **FOUR** functions of oral literature (8mks)

d) Describe **FOUR** sources of Oral literature (8mks)

e) Outline any **THREE** genres of oral literature (3mks)

2) Images used in oral literature and folklore vary from one society to society though the message conveyed may be the same. Explain this statement drawing illustrations from at least TWO different communities (11marks).

b) Using examples from your study of oral literature describe the characteristics of the following:

i. Proverbs

ii. Riddles

iii. Tongue- twisters (9mks)

3. Discuss the following varieties of elements which give rise to oral literature and how they depict the tradition of a society:

i) Artistic

ii) Social

iii) Cultural

iv) Physical

(20mks)

4a) Explain **TWO** theoretical approaches to the study of oral literature giving examples from your field work study (4mks)

b) Differentiate beliefs, customs, taboos and superstitions based on your oral literature field study (12mks)

5a) Describe children's use of folk literature drawing examples from any two communities (6mks).

b) Explain **TWO** Research methods in oral literature citing a situation where you would use the methods (6mks)

c) Describe the use of characterization in oral literature and the significance of the characters (8mks)