



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2021/2022 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 200: EAST AFRICAN PROSE

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Analyse any **FIVE** factors that have contributed to the growth of East African Literature?
(15 marks)
- b) Using any **TWO** texts studied in this unit, discuss any **THREE** recurring themes in East African Literature
(15 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Analyse how Meja Mwangi's *Carcase for Hounds* treats the theme of violence

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Discuss the portrayal of disability in Troy Onyango's "This Little Light of Mine"

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Examine how East African Literature preserves the rich cultural repertoire from the region.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Analyse how Flora Matthew Sungula in "Aliua Mji Wake" use any **FOUR** aspects of style to bring out the issue of Migration



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SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

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BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 202: SURVEY OF AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- Discuss how African writers navigate the question of language in their writing. (15 marks)
- Demonstrate how TWO short stories discussed in this unit corroborate the fact that colonialism was not only a gruesome chapter but also a disruptive phenomenon in the history of the colonized. (15 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Discuss the theme of homelessness Abdulrazak Gurnah's *Gravel Heart*

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

The successful deployment of character presentation gives Mwangi's work a semblance to realism. Drawing your examples from Meja Mwangi's *Carcase for Hounds*, discuss this statement with reference to the following characters

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Examine the depiction of identity crisis in Panashe Chigumadzi's *God of the First Testament*

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using any text studied in this unit, analyze how African countries continue to grapple with violence and its aftermath in society.



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THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 302: POETRY

DATE:

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) With appropriate examples, analyse distinguishing characteristics of the following types of poetry:
- Lytic poetry
 - Narrative poetry
 - Dramatic poetry (15 marks)
- b) Using relevant examples, discuss concerns of Eco-poetry (15 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow

What We Own

Our men do not belong to us.
Even my own father left one afternoon, is not mine.

My brother is in prison, is not mine. My uncles, they
go back home and they are shot in the head, are not mine.

My cousins, stabbed in the street for being too or not enough,
are not mine. Then the men we try to love say
we carry too much loss, wear too much black,

are too heavy to be around, much too sad to love.
Then they leave, and we mourn them too.

Is that what we're here for?
To sit at kitchen tables, counting
on our fingers the ones who died,
those who left, and the others who were taken by the police,
or by drugs
or by illness
or by other women?

It makes no sense.
Look at your skin, her mouth, these lips, those eyes,
my God, listen to that laugh.
The only darkness we should allow into our lives is the night,
for even then, we have the moon.

(Warsan Shire)

- a) Describe the subject matter of the poem (5 marks)
- b) Analyse the significance of the poem's title to the overall meaning of the poem (5 marks)
- c) Explain any two socio-political issues raised in the poem (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

With appropriate examples, discuss how Siphso Sepamla's poetry best exemplifies the protest tradition in poetry.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

With reference to any Contemporary poems, discuss **THREE** emerging contemporary issues

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Read the poem and answer questions which follow:

Reapers

BY JEAN TOOMER

Black reapers with the sound of steel on stones
Are sharpening scythes. I see them place the hones
In their hip-pockets as a thing that's done,
And start their silent swinging, one by one.
Black horses drive a mower through the weeds,
And there, a field rat, startled, squealing bleeds.
His belly close to ground. I see the blade,
Blood-stained, continue cutting weeds and shade.

- a) Identify the tone of the poem (2 marks)
- b) Analyse the subject of this poem (8 marks)
- c) Explain how the structure of the poem helps (5 marks)
- d) Describe the form of imagery used in the poem (5 marks)