



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 Academic Year  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES  
MAY-AUGUST SESSION EXAMINATION FOR  
MASTER OF ARTS (LITERATURE)  
ALT507: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

DATE: 26/8/2021

TIME: 9.00-12.00 PM

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*This paper consists of FIVE questions*

*Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper*

**SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)**

1. Using adequate illustrations from texts studied in this course, discuss the salient features of African American literature you have enjoyed in this course. (20 marks)

**SECTION B:**

2. Using either poems or songs from the Harlem renaissance or even beyond, evaluate the significance of the genre towards the blacks' mental and spiritual healing. (20 marks)
3. "The slave narrative epitomises the desire for self-reconstruction, an effort to humanise the self and the black race." Discuss this statement in reference to any of the autobiographies studied in class. (20 marks)
4. Using at least TWO texts by female authors you have read from this unit, examine how the writers explore issues of self-love, culture, and black womanhood. (20 marks)
5. Using ample illustrations from *Native Son* and *Go Tell it on the Mountains*, discuss how the authors rebel against patriarchy and racism. (20 marks)