



*(Knowledge for Development)*

# **KIBABII UNIVERSITY**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 112**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO EAST AFRICAN LITERATURE**

**DATE: 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2021**

**TIME: 8.00 - 10.00AM**

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### **INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES**

Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** Questions

**TIME: 2 Hours**

*This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over. ►*

**KIBU** observes **ZERO** tolerance to examination cheating.

### **QUESTION ONE - COMPULSORY (30 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss any five factors that contributed to the development and growth of East African literature. Use illustrations from any novels and short stories covered in this course. (15 marks)
- b) Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow: (15 marks)

#### **A Leopard Lives in a Muu Tree**

A leopard lives in a Muu tree  
Watching my home  
My lambs are born speckled  
My wives tie their skirts tight  
And turn away –  
Fearing mottled offspring.  
They bathe when the moon is high  
Soft and fecund  
Splash cold mountain stream water on their nipples  
Drop their skin skirts and call obscenities.  
I'm besieged  
I shall have to cut down the Muu tree  
I'm besieged  
I walk about stiff  
Stroking my loins  
A leopard lives outside my homestead  
Watching my women  
I have called him elder, the one-from-the-same-womb  
He peers at me with slit eyes  
His head held high  
My sword has rusted in the scabbard.  
My wives purse their lips  
When owls call for mating  
I'm besieged  
They fetch cold mountain water  
They crush the sugar cane  
But refuse to touch my beer horn.  
My fences are broken  
My medicine bags torn  
The hair on my loins is singed  
The upright post at the gate has fallen  
My women are frisky  
The leopard arches over my homestead  
Eats my lambs  
Resuscitating himself.

*Jonathan Kariara.*

**Questions:**

- a) Explain **two** themes brought out in this poem. (2 marks)
- b) With illustrations from the poem, describe the tone and mood prevailing in the poem. (2 marks)
- c) What evidence is given in the poem to illustrate that there is indeed an illicit love relations between the persona's wives and his neighbour? (3 marks)
- d) Identify four major poetic devices in the poem and discuss their effectiveness. (8 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the significance of Maji in the play *Kinjeketile* by Ibrahim Hussein.

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss how Okot p'Bitek brings out the clash between Western culture and traditional culture. Use *Song of Lawino* as your point of reference.

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Show how John Ruganda in *Shreds of Tenderness*, uses Wak, Stella and Odie to present the socio-political problems that afflict East Africans.

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Critically examine the contemporary issues presented by East African Prose writers. Use illustrations from *Dar es Saalam by Night* by Ben Mtobwa.

**QUESTION SIX (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the major concerns in Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye's Novel *Coming to Birth*.