



(Knowledge for Development)

KIBABII UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

MAIN EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN COMPARATIVE
LITERATURE**

COURSE CODE: LIT 813

COURSE TITLE: THE AFRICAN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

DATE: 14TH JULY, 2021

TIME: 9.00 - 11.00AM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

Answer any **THREE** Questions. Do not duplicate illustrations.

TIME: 2 Hours

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

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

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

With close reference to any three African Autobiographies, explicate what may be considered as major stylistic devices in these works. How effective have these styles been employed?

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

“Every autobiography is a work of art and at the same time a form of enlightenment.” Justify this statement with close reference to Odinga’s *The Flame of Freedom*.

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Drawing relevant illustrations from *Not Yet Uhuru* by Oginga Odinga and *Detained: A Prisoner’s Diary* by Ngugi wa Thiong’o, discuss the intersection between fictionalisation and factuality in autobiographical writing.

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

With close reference to Wangari Maathai’s *Unbowed*, demonstrate the ways in which the autobiography can be considered a platform for protest and self-affirmation.

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Citing relevant illustrations from Wole Soyinka’s *The Man Died*, explicate what may be considered as the outstanding features of the African Autobiography.