



(Knowledge for Development)

KIBABII UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

MAIN EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: LIT 311.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED LITERARY THEORY AND APPLICATION

DATE: 16TH MAY, 2022

TIME: 9.00 - 11.00AM

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) Explain the difference between literary theory and literary criticism. (4 marks)
- b) State SIX roles played by theory in the study of literature. (6 marks)
- c) Briefly discuss the academic process of establishing a literary theory. (6 marks)
- d) Undertake a feminist critical analysis of Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood (2008)*. (14 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) The history of every critical theory is, in effect, the history of an ongoing debate among its own advocates as well as an ongoing debate with the advocates of other theories. Discuss. (8 marks)
- b) Examine the origins of Russian Formalism. (6 marks)
- c) Discuss the major concerns of the formalist critics. (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Write what you understand by and TWO of the following terms: (4 marks)
- i. Trauma theory ii. Resilience iii. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- iv. The uncanny nature of trauma
- v. Belatedness, latency, and the difficulty of accessing the trauma story
- b) "Trauma escapes language and representation." Discuss how traumatic experiences can be represented in experimental fiction and testimonial narratives. (4 marks)
- c) With the help of trauma literary theory, analyse Kinyanjui Kombani's *The Last Villains of Molo (2016)*. (12 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain the meaning of intrinsically and extrinsically inclined theories as suggested by Graham Hough in *An Essay on Criticism (1966)*. (4 marks)
- b) Underline some background information about the development of The Bakhtin School. (7 marks)
- c) Discuss what you understand by the following Bakhtinian concepts: (9 marks)
- i. Heteroglossia (Multilinguageness) ii. Dialogism iii. Carnival/Carnivalisation

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) What is Marxist Aesthetics? (2 marks)
- b) Explain the meaning of the following terms as used by Marxist critics: (6 marks)
- i. Bourgeoisie ii. Proletariat iii. The Base iv. The Superstructure
- iv. Material and Historical Conditions
- a) Underline some of the contributions made by any TWO of the following: (4 marks)
- i. Karl Marx iv. Louis Althusser and Structural Marxism
- ii. Terry Eagleton v. Antonio Gramsci and Neo-Marxism
- iii. Walter Benjamin and The Frankfurt School
- b) Examine how Marxism can be applied in the study of Literature. (8 marks)

QUESTION SIX (20 MARKS)

- a) Outline some of the contributions by any TWO the following pioneer feminists as discussed in their seminal books: (12 marks)
- i. Virginia Woolf: *A Room of One's Own* (1929)
 - ii. Simone de Beauvoir: *The Second Sex* (1952)
 - iii. Betty Friedan: *The Feminine Mystique* (1963)
 - iv. Kate Millett: *Sexual Politics* (1970)
 - v. Elaine Showalter: *A Literature of their Own* (1977)
- b) Discuss with illustrations the significance of the main tenets of structuralism. (8 marks)

QUESTION SEVEN (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain what you understand by any THREE of the following concepts: (9 marks)
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| i. Existentialism | iv. Facticity |
| ii. "Existence Precedes Essence" | v. Angst and despair |
| iii. Absurdity | vi. Death and nothingness |
- b) Undertake an existentialist reading of Franz Kafka's "*The Metamorphosis*" (1915).