



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR MAIN EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: LIT 211

COURSE TITLE: EAST AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: 28TH JANUARY, 2022

TIME: 9.00A.M– 12.00NOON

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 4 PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

LIT 211: EAST AFRICAN LITERATURE

STREAM: BED (Arts)

DURATION: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i. Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.
 - ii. Do not write on the question paper.
 - iii. Avoid using the same text to answer more than one question.
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Question One (Compulsory)

- a. With illustrations, discuss occasions where oral poetry was used and role it served.
(16Marks)
- b. Illustrating from specific poems studied in this unit discuss the influence of oral traditions in modern East African poetry.
(14Marks)

Question Two

With illustrations, discuss FIVE prevalent themes from East African poets' address, at least two poems.
(20Marks)

Question Three

Explore the major ways in which the socio-political environment in East Africa has contributed to the thematic concerns of East African poetry.
(20Marks)

Question Four

With close reference to at least two poems studied in this course, analyze the theme of social life and betrayal.
(20Marks)

Question Five

Read the following poem and answer questions that follow it.

I Speak for the Bush: Everett Standa

When my friend sees me
He swells and pants like a frog
Because I talk the wisdom of the Bush!

He says we from the bush
Do not understand civilized ways
For we tell our women
To keep the hem of their dresses
Below the knee,
We from the bush, my friend insists,
Do not know how to "enjoy";
When we come to the civilized city,
Like nuns, we stay away from nightclubs
Where women belong to no men
And men belong to no woman
And these civilized people
Quarrel and fight like hungry lions!

But, my friend, why do men
With crippled legs, lifeless eyes,
Wooden legs, empty stomachs
Wander about the streets
Of civilized world?

Teach my friend, the trick,
So that my eyes may not
See those whose houses have no walls
But emptiness all around;
So, me the wax you use
To seal your ears
To stop hearing the cry of the hungry;

Teach me the new wisdom
Which tells men
To talk about money and not love,
When they meet women;

Tell your God to convert
Me to the faith of the indifferent,
Who will never listen until?
They are shaken by blows.

I speak for the bush:

You speak for the civilized-

Will you hear me?

- i. Identify the persona in the poem. (2Marks)
- ii. Explain the effect of any three stylistic devices used in the poem. (6Marks)
- iii. Explore the TWO contrasting ideas brought out in the poem (4Marks)
- iv. Explain stanza 5 in your own words. (4Marks)
- v. Identify the attitude of the persona towards the subject matter. (4Marks)