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University Examinations 2022/2023

FIRST YEAR SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ELI 3150: EAST AFRICAN LITERATURE: PROSE AND POETRY

DATE: AUGUST 2023

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Show your understanding of the term prose (5 marks)
- b) Differentiate these terms, giving relevant illustrations: (15 marks)
 - i) Personification
 - ii) Litotes
 - iii) Synecdoche
- c) Discuss briefly how African writers have addressed thematic issues in:
 - i) Poetry
 - ii) Prose (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) With close reference to either the short story Breaking Loose by Moyes Vassanji or any other East African short story covered in this unit, briefly address two social concerns in the texts (10 marks)

- b) Using an East African novelist of your choice, examine the use of oral literary material in their work. (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) “Literature is a mirror for the society.” Using a novel recommended in this unit, validate this statement (10 marks)
- b) Highlight two differences between prose and poetry (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Using Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s *A Grain of Wheat* or Mary Okurut’s *The Invisible Weevil*, briefly discuss two stylistics devices used. (10 marks)
- b) Briefly discuss two features of a novel (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using the poem below, discuss five language styles used (20 marks)

An African Thunderstorm

David Rubadiri

From the west

Clouds come hurrying with the wind

Turning sharply

Here and there

Like a plague of locusts

Whirling,

Tossing up things on its tail

Like a madman chasing nothing.

Pregnant clouds

Ride stately on its back

Gathering to perch on hills

Like dark sinister wings

The wind whistles by

And trees bend to let it pass

In the village
Streams of delighted children
Toss and turn
In the dim of the whirling wind;
Women
Babies clinging on their backs
Dart about
In and out madly;
The wind whirls by
While trees bend to let it pass.

Clothes wave like tattered flags
Flying off
To expose dangling breasts
As jagged blinding flashes
Rumble, tremble, and crack
Amidst the smell of fired smoke
And the pelting march on the storm.