

Correction of the Exam Paper : African Poetry / 2020 – 2021

1. Two important elements that distinguish poetry from other literary genres are its **use of rhythm and meter**, which create a distinct musicality, and its condensed and often figurative language that evokes emotions and imagery more vividly than prose.
2. Different phases of African poetry include the Pioneering Phase, Transitional Phase, Modernist Phase and Contemporary Phase.
3. The Negritude movement belongs to the Pioneering Phase or anti-colonial phase of African poetry. It emerged in the mid-20th century and sought to celebrate African cultural identity, heritage, and resistance against colonial oppression. Negritude poets aimed to reclaim African identity and dignity, emphasizing pride in African heritage and values.
4. The above poem belongs to the Pioneering Phase or anti-colonial phase of African poetry. It reflects the theme of African identity, resistance against oppression (particularly slavery), and the quest for freedom and dignity.
5. The main theme of the poem is **the struggle of Africa against oppression**, with the speaker acknowledging the historical suffering and bloodshed of the continent. **The last three lines suggest a more hopeful and optimistic outlook, portraying a new Africa emerging with patience and determination.** The speaker's attitude shifts from lamenting the past struggles to recognizing the resilience and growth of a new Africa striving for liberty.