



**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(MMUST)**

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM

2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

**EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
ARTS**

COURSE CODE: LIT 100

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

DATE: 29TH JULY, 2022

TIME: 11.00 AM – 1.00PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question ONE and any other Two

This paper consists of FOUR (4) pages. Please turn over

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

Answer Question ONE and any other two questions.

Question One (30 marks)

- a) "Literature is an umbrella that consists of different genres" Discuss (20 marks)
- b) With illustrations from relevant texts, discuss two approaches to literary criticism (10 marks)

Question two (Poetry) (20 marks)

Analyze the following poem, giving special consideration to its imagery.

Piano and Drums – Gabriel Okara

when at break of day at a riverside
I hear jungle drums telegraphing
the mystic rhythm, urgent, raw like
bleeding flesh, speaking of primal
youth and the beginning,
I see the panther ready to pounce,
the leopard snarling about to leap
and the hunters crouched with spears poised;
And my blood ripples, turns torrent,
topples the years and at once I'm In
my mother's laps a sucking;
at once I'm walking simple
paths with no innovations,
rugged, fashioned with the naked
warmth of hurrying feet and groping heart

in green leaves and flowers pulsing.

Then I hear a wailing piano
solo speaking of complex ways
in tear-furrowed concerto;
of far away lands
and new horizons with
coaxing diminuendo, counterpoint,
crescendo. But lost in the labyrinth
of its complexities, it ends in the middle
of a phrase at a dagger point.
And I lost in the morning mist of
an age at a riverside keep wandering in the mystic rhythm
of jungle drums and the concerto.

Question Three (Prose) (20 marks)

With close reference to Ngugi Wa Thiong'o's *A Grain of Wheat* or any novel of your choice, discuss the characteristics of prose.

OR

Discuss the characteristics that distinguish a novel from a short story.

Question Four (Play)

a) "Dramatic language is both verbal and non-verbal". Discuss with illustrations from any play of your choice. (20 marks)

OR

b) "Characters in comedies are much more ordinary than those in tragedies". With illustrations from any text(s) of your choice, discuss this assertion.

Question Five (Oral Literature)

- a) Discuss the classification of oral narratives according to i) character and ii) content and intent (10 marks)
- b) Discuss characterization in oral narratives (10 marks)