



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

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM

2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

**EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MA IN COMPERATIVE LITERATURE ARTS**

COURSE CODE: LIT 812

COURSE TITLE: A SURVEY OF AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: MONDAY 25TH JULY, 2022 TIME: 2.00-4.00PM

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question ONE and any other Two

This paper consists of Two (2) pages. Please turn over

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

INSTRUCTIONS

- a) Respond to three questions in total. Question 1 is compulsory
- b) Present your answers in essay form.
- c) Question one is worth 30 marks, while every other questions is worth 20 marks.
- d) Do not use the same material to answer more than one question

Question One (30 marks)

- a) Define African Literature and situate its thematic development from the period before colonialism to the present times. (16 marks)
- b) “African literature focuses on African experiences at different historical periods” discuss how The novel *Disgrace* by J.M Coetzee brings out the issues of post-apartheid in South Africa (14 marks)

Question Two (20 marks)

- a) Explain what you understand by the term apartheid (2 marks)
- b) Describe four pillars of apartheid in South Africa. (4 marks)
- c) Discuss how apartheid is brought out in *The Blood Knot* by Athol Furgard. (14marks)

Question Three

With an understanding that human experiences form the basis for written expression in literature, Discuss how the colonial experiences in Angola and Mozambique are brought out in Margaret Dickinson's *When Bullets Begin to Flower*. Use at least four poems.

Question Four (20 marks)

- a) Discuss the title *Nervous Conditions* with reference to the novel *Nervous conditions* by Tsi Tsi Dangeremba (4 marks)
- b) Discuss how women in *Nervous Conditions* are “double colonized” (6 marks)
- c) “Religion and culture has for a considerable period of time been used to marginalize and subjugate women in African societies, However some women are stepping out of ‘the box’ to assert themselves” Discuss the truth of this statement with reference to *Nervous conditions* by Tsi Tsi Dangeremba (10 marks)

Question Five (20 marks)

Discuss how *In The Fog of The Seasons End* by Alex La Guma reflects the the period during struggle for independence in South Africa.
