



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

MAIN EXAM

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

FOURTH YEAR SEMESTER TWO EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

COURSE CODE: LIT 411

COURSE TITLE: EUROPEAN POETRY AND DRAMA

DATE: MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023 TIME: 800-1000AM

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO

Duration: 2 hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

- This paper consists of 3 printed pages. Please turn over.

Question One (30 marks)

- a) Distinguish between drama and theatre. (2 marks)
- b) Name and define the four (4) writing tools of the playwright. (8marks)
- c) Draw the Gustav Freytag's pyramid and use it to explain the five (5) parts in which dramatic action proceeds. (20 marks)

Question Two (20 marks)

Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* is said to be a typical Greek tragedy, yet so *un*Greek. Discuss with close reference to the text and conventions of Greek tragedy.

Question Three (20 marks)

"Theatre of the Absurd seems to ignore theatrical conventions and thwart audience expectations." Discuss the validity of this statement with close reference to the plot, theme, style and language of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

Question Four (20 marks)

With reference to the following poems, differentiate between the Petrarchan/Italian sonnet and the Shakespearean sonnet in terms of structure, subject matter and rhyme scheme.

How Do I Love Thee – Elizabeth Barrett Browning (Petrarchan/Italian sonnet)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.

I love thee to the depth and breadth and height

My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight

For the ends of being and ideal grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's

Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.

I love thee freely, as men strive for right.

I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.

I love thee with the passion put to use

In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.

I love thee with a love I seemed to lose

With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,

Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,

I shall but love thee better after death.

Sonnet 18 – Shakespeare (Shakespearean sonnet)

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date;
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;
Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st:
 So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
 So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

Question Five (20 marks)

In a detailed explication, point out the elements that make *Ozymandias* (below) by Percy Bysshe Shelley a romantic poem.

I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert.... Near them on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown
And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed.
And on the pedestal these words appear:
'My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:
Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair!'
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

