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

**MAIN EXAM**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FIRST YEAR SEMESTER TWO EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE**

**OF MASTER OF ARTS IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 819**

**COURSE TITLE: TRAGEDY IN DRAMA**

**DATE: TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023 TIME: 1000-100PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Read through the questions carefully and answer Three (3) questions.  
Question One (1) is compulsory.

*Duration: 3HRS*

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

➤ This paper consists of 2 printed pages. Please turn over.

### **Question One**

Drawing on appropriate illustrations where necessary, examine the significance of Aristotle's theory of tragedy to the development of the concept of tragedy in drama (20 marks)

### **Question Two**

Referencing any African tragic play of your choice, explore the strategies of appropriating a Western tragic concept for local audiences (20 marks)

### **Question Three**

With a focus on Ato Quayson's idea of 'postcolonial tragedy', explore how the theory can be used in reading an African tragedy of your choice (20 marks)

### **Question Four**

Examine the major arguments raised by Arthur Miller's "Tragedy and the Common Man" and apply them in reading a drama text of your choice. (20 marks)

### **Question Five**

Drawing on either Christopher Marlowe's *Tamburlaine* or William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Hamlet, the Prince of Denmark*, interrogate the Elizabethan tragedy's conception of mortality (20 marks)

### **Question Six**

In what ways is the Brechtian drama an exemplification of the rejection of tragedy in the modern age? Discuss (20 marks)