



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

**MAIN
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATION

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

COURSE CODE: LIT 406

COURSE TITLE: LIFE WRITING LITERATURE

**DATE: THURSDAY 7/12/2023
5:00PM**

TIME: 3:00-

INSTRUCTION:

Answer **THREE** questions. Question **ONE** is compulsory

Duration: 2HOURS

MMUST observes **ZERO** tolerance to examination cheating

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

- 1 a) Explain the relationship between Language and Literature in teaching of the two. (8mks)
- b). With illustrations from any text studied in this course, discuss the ethical considerations in life writing(12mks)
2. Discuss the theme of identity in Maya Angelous novel, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (20mks)
3. With illustrations from the Narrative of Friedrich Douglas by Friedrich Douglas, highlight the key issues the black slaves had to go through in the hands oof the colonial masters
4. The sick are vulnerable subjects. With illustrations from *The Broken Cord* by Michael Dorris, discuss the validity of this statement. (20mks)
5. With illustrations from any text studied in this course, clearly discuss the concept of memory and truth in life writing. (20mks)
6. Using Ngugi Wa Thiongós *Dreams in Time of War*, discuss the relevance of cultural context in life writing. (20mks)

Question one (20 marks)

- (a) Argue for the validity of the statement “no man is an island in and of himself” in relation to life writing as a relational form
- (b) Using the analogy of an autopsy, examine biographical writing as a subjective form

Question two (20 marks)

Drawing on one text studied in this course, evaluate the intersectional nature of identity in life writing

Question three (20 marks)

Through critical analysis of a text studied in this course, interrogate Thomas ideas on vulnerability in life writing

Question four (20 marks)

Using any text studied in this course, discuss the bildungsroman as a form of life writing

Question five (20 marks)

To what extent does the illness narrative enable the subject of life gain agency? Discuss