



(University Of Choice)

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

MAIN EXAMINATION

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR, SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATION

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

COURSE CODE: LIT 300

**COURSE TITLE: CRITICAL THEORY AND
APPLICATION IN LITERATURE**

DATE: WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2023 TIME: 12 NOON – 2 PM

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) Discuss the nature of literature and show its relevance to the understanding of critical theory (10MKS)
b) Explain the functions of literature and how they relate to critical theory (10MKS)
c) Discuss the importance of studying critical theory (10 MKS)
2. Examine Marxist ideals in the reading of either Ousmane Sembene's *God's Bits of Wood* or Bhabani Bhattacharya's *So Many Hungers* (20 MKS)
3. Discuss postcolonial theory as manifested in either Ngugi wa Thiongo's *Weep Not, Child* or Ayi Kwei Armah's *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* (20 MKS)
4. Explore the representation of the environment in either Henry Ole Kulet's *The Elephant Dance* or Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* using ecocritical approach (20 MKS)
5. Examine the politics of gender in either Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye's *Coming to Birth* or Mariama Ba's *So long a Letter* (20 MKS)
6. Explain the key concepts of postmodern literary theory with close reference to William Carlos Williams' The Red Wheelbarrow (20 MKS)