



# **MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**

**University Examinations 2022/2023**

**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES**

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR**

**MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE**

**ALT507: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE**

**DATE:16/12/2022**

**TIME: 2:00 – 5:00P.M**

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**INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper**

**QUESTION ONE (20MARKS)**

With the help of ample illustrations, examine how African American writers have used the genre of self-writing to reconstruct selfhood and victimhood.

**QUESTION TWO (20MARKS)**

Using writers or artists of choice, discuss the salient features of the Harlem renaissance as an important epoch in African American literature.

**QUESTION THREE (20MARKS)**

African American women writing is characterised by a sense of urgency and agency. With reference to female authors of choice, validate the truth in this statement.

**QUESTION FOUR (20MARKS)**

With reference to texts/writers of choice, evaluate the significance of the American dream as an important motif in African American literature.

**QUESTION FIVE (20MARKS)**

Using ample illustrations from James Baldwin's works, discuss how the author uses writing as a tool to deconstruct religious white supremacy and discrimination.