



# **MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**

**University Examinations 2022/2023**

**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES  
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)  
BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**ALT101: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES**

**DATE:14/12/2022**

**TIME: 11:00 -1:00P.M**

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

## **QUESTION ONE (30MARKS)**

- a) Explain the nature and function of literature using examples from texts studied in this unit. (15 marks)
- b) Out of the texts studied in this unit, which one has appealed the most to you and why? (15 marks)

## **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

What are the FOUR significant aspects that you would examine when analysing a literary novel? Provide ample illustrations.

## **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

With adequate examples, explain the distinguishing features for the novel, drama and poetry.

## **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Examine the characteristics of a tragedy using illustrations from any play studied in this unit.

### QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using your knowledge of imagery in poetry, attempt an appraisal of the images in the following poem:

#### **Like the Sea and its waters by Waigwa Wachira**

I have seen the sun rise and set  
with a volcanic passion of flaming orange,  
And I have thought of a love that once rose and set  
like the sun in the sky  
I have watched the trees at sunset  
And mountains at dusk with purple blankets  
And soft clouds of ink,  
and softly, I have thought of you.

I have stood on the ferry in the Indian Ocean  
And have breathed the sweet scented air  
that God gave to the sea  
And I have thought of the fragrance of a love that shone so brightly  
like the stars in the sky

I have sat barefoot on the rocks by the lake  
Wondering what went wrong  
Wishing I could hold you  
Knowing that I have lost you  
Feeling my thoughts fly  
like a bird across the sea  
On the lonely wings of love, far...  
Far away from home and you

And as I walk the sands of a shore  
that out feet used to know

My eyes hurt with unshed tears  
My soul turning as the wind calls your name  
For I miss you desperately  
And I long for you with every breath I take  
If I could touch and hold the sun  
I'd give it to you  
If I could plant flowers in the sand and make them grow  
I'd plant them just for you  
For I have kissed you when you cried  
and tasted the salty blue turbulence of your soul

And if in my turn  
I should give up and die  
or simply break down and cry  
Forgive me lady dear  
and help me dry my tears  
For it is the cry of the fisherman  
After the sea is gone

You are like the sea  
and its waters to me  
and I have loved you dearly

more dearly than the spoken word can tell...