



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2021/2022 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 301: THEORY AND METHOD IN ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: 23/8/2022

TIME: 11.00-1.00

PM

---

## INSTRUCTIONS

*This paper consists of FIVE questions*

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

### SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)

#### QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Describe contemporary tools that you can use in oral literature fieldwork to facilitate data collection and analysis? (15 marks)
- b) *Kya Mwilu* in Machakos is famed for defying the rule of gravity; however, for the oral literature student there is a narrative behind this phenomenon. Explain how you would use ethnomethodology to study this narrative in the context of the community. (15 marks)

### SECTION B

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Drawing your examples from the narrative of the step-mother motif, analyse how feminism is used in the interpretation of oral literature materials.

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the centrality of the performance theory in the appreciation of oral literature as a genre characterised by challenges of definition.

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Using an example of a trickster narrative of your choice, explain how structuralism can aid in the interpretation of the cognitive and aesthetic function of oral literature.

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Referring to any contemporary cartoon show on television, examine how the producers exploit issues of sex and sexuality to produce their content.