



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2022/2023

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE IN BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT305: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN NOVEL

Date:

Time:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question ONE and other TWO questions in this paper

NB: Do NOT use the same text for different questions

Section A: (Compulsory)

1. a) With adequate illustrations, explain the defining characteristics of the African American novel. (15 Marks)
- b) Examine how Toni Morrison explores the consequences of racial discrimination in *The Bluest Eye*. (15 marks)

Section B

2. Using either *The Narrative of Fredrick Douglass* or *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* as narrated by the writers discuss the centrality of autobiographical writing to the African American novel. (20marks)
3. Discuss the historical and artistic components that characterise the Harlem renaissance as a landmark in African American writings. (20marks)
4. Using ample illustrations, examine the interplay between racial discrimination and violence as meted out in African American literature. (20marks)

5. Both Dubois and Baldwin are concerned with issues of identity and identification in their writings. Discuss this statement by providing illustrations from their works. (20 Marks)