

**LIT 100: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDIES – MARKING GUIDE**  
**FOR SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMS**

1. a) Discuss the relevance of Oral Literature in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? (9 marks)

\*Candidates to discuss the importance of oral literature and relate it to the 21<sup>st</sup> century:

-Preservation of history - (2 marks) .

-Educational purposes - (2 marks)

-Self-awareness - (2 marks)

-Nation building - (2 marks)

- b) With relevant examples from the text, discuss the treatment of the themes of poverty, alienation, unemployment, dejection and crime in Meja Mwangi's *Kill Me Quick* (1976). (15 marks)

\*Marks to be awarded per the discussion of themes as:

- Poverty - (3 marks)

-Alienation - (3 marks)

-Unemployment - (3 marks)

-Dejection - (3 marks)

2. With reference to the 1992 'tribal' clashes in Kenya, discuss the real issues in Kinyanjui Kombani's *The Last Villains of Molo* (2012). (15 marks)

\*The real issues include:

-Ethnic-based violence - (3 marks)

-Struggle for survival - (3 marks)

-Friendship and lasting love - (3 marks)

-Destitution, betrayal, desperation and revenge – (6 marks)

3. Taking into consideration the treatment of characters, thematic concerns and stylistic devices, make a comparative study of Okot p'Bitek's *Song of Lawino* (1966) and *Song of Ocol* (1966). (15 marks)

\*Candidates are expected to relate the two books in terms of:

- Thematic concerns - (5 marks)
- Stylistic techniques - (5 marks)
- Characterization - (5 marks)

4. Read the poem titled *Death At Mulago* and thereafter attempt the following questions:

**Death at Mulago**

*By David Rubadiri*

Towers of strength

granite

hard concrete

enduring

like life itself.

Up they rise

tall and slender

and around them

white coats flit

like the magic they spell.

New Mulago Hospital

-the name shakes-

She stood firmly

on that cool afternoon

giving names, tribe and sex,

a woman clad in busuti.

As the fullstop was entered

on a white sheet of paper

a whitecoat gave a nod.

Her hands cross her chest  
and the message unsaid  
crushing granite and concrete  
in gushing tears of pain  
and a lonely sorrow.

- a) Discuss in detail the use of personification and any other literary devices employed in the poem - (3 marks)
- b) Do you consider the poem angry or sorrowful? Use textual illustrations - (3 marks)
- c) What is the economy of expression in this poem intended to reflect? - (3 marks) -
- d) Explain the relationship between line 19 and the title of the poem - (3 marks)

\*General presentation - (3 marks)

(15 marks)

5. a) While in the field collecting oral literature materials, explain how you go about doing the exercise? (9 marks)

\*Candidates are expected to discuss any three of the following:

- Be very clear in your mind about what you intend to do - (3 marks)

-Go to the area of collection, talk to the people and decide from whom you are going to collect the material - (3 marks)

-Cross-check on the skill and experience of those considered to be the best informants – (3 marks)

-Remember to include young people in the list of informants - (3 marks)

b) Explain the meaning of the following: (6 marks)

i) Dilemma stories -(3 marks)

ii) Legends -(3 marks)

iii) Myths -(3 marks)

6. Discuss the main thematic concerns and stylistic devices in Moses Isegawa's "The War of Ears" and Rayad Jacob's "The Guilt" as read in the *When the Sun Goes Down and Other Stories* (2010) (15 marks)

\*Marks to be distributed as:

-Thematic concerns in "The War of Years" - (3 marks)

- Learnt -Thematic concerns in “The Guilt’ - (3 marks)
- Stylistic devices in “The War of Years” - (3 marks)
- Stylistic devices in “The Guilt” - (3 marks)
- \* General presentation - (3 marks)
7. What are the similarities and differences between the following genres of literature? (15 marks)
- i) Prose fiction - (3 marks)
  - ii) Oral literature - (3 marks)
  - iii) Poetry - (3 marks)
  - iv) Drama - (3 marks)
8. Read and analyze in detail the following narrative titled *How the Kalenjin People Became Scattered*. (15 marks)
- \*Candidates are expected to discuss:
- Classification of the narrative - (2 marks)
  - Stylistic features - (5 marks)
  - Thematic concerns - (5 marks)
  - Lessons - (5 marks)