

KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE

Course code: LIT 316

Course Title: European and American Drama

Third year 2013/2014 academic year exams

Instructions:

QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY. Attempt other two questions from the sections provided:

QUESTION ONE

“According to the classical drama, transition from **sacred** to **secular** society was a tragic event which could only be represented using **tragedy**.” With reference to *Antigone*, *Oedipus the King* and *Electra*, Explain:

- a) How Sophoclean drama captures and represents this tragic transition. (20 marks)
- b) Use four dramatic techniques applied in the three plays and elaborate how they are effective in conveying the tragic realities of the time. (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO – ELIZABETHAN DRAMA (Chose one question from this part)

“Boundless love, love which transcends racial, religious and class boundaries can only be represented in meticulously crafted drama.” While citing various dramatic techniques used by William Shakespeare, show how this scenario is represented in *Merchant of Venice*. (20 marks)

“Racial jingoism and religious bigotry have remained a global eyesore for centuries and are not about to be brought to an end” how are these sentiments represented in Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice*? (20 Marks)

QUESTION THREE - EUROPEAN DRAMA (Chose one question from this section)

“The ultimate goal of the political class in society is to manipulate the gullible masses for its selfish interests” To what extent is this statement a reflection of Ibsen’s **An Enemy of the People**? (20 marks)

“What ails many societies the world over is that the sources of their moral and spiritual lives are poisoned and that the whole fabrics of their civic communities are founded on the polluted soils of falsehood” Write in defense of this statement while giving succinct illustrations from Ibsen’s *An Enemy of the People*. (20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR - AMERICAN DRAMA

“Real conflict in drama resides in the obstacles which are raised in the way of an individual character’s desire to get what they want in life.” How is Hansberry’s representation of characters in *A Raisin in The sun* a reflection of this statement? (20 marks)