

KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2013/2014 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE

OF

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

COURSE CODE: LIT 300

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED LITERARY THEORY AND APPLICATION

DATE:

TIME:

Instructions:

- Answer question ONE (**COMPULSORY**) and any other **THREE** (3) questions:
- Candidates are allowed **FIFTEEN** minutes to read through the question paper before the commencement of the examination.

1. a) Explain the meaning and relevance of the following terms commonly used in literature: (9 marks)
 - i) Literary theory
 - ii) Theoretical and practical criticism

- b) Using any of the following theoretical approach(es) you think most appropriate, attempt an analysis of any **ONE** of the following books: (16 marks)
 - i) *Things Fall Apart* (1958) - Chinua Achebe
 - ii) *Three Days on the Cross* (1991) - Wahome Mutahi
 - iii) *Dar es Salaam by Night* (1999) - Ben Mtobwa

2. a) What are some of the qualities of a good literary critic? (5 marks)

- b) Make a comparative study of any **TWO** of the following identity theories: (10 marks)

i) Feminist theory	iii) Postcolonial theory
ii) Queer theory	iv) Marxist theory

3. Evaluate the major principles by any **ONE** of the following theories:

i) Existentialist theory	iv) Postmodernism
ii) Realist theory	v) Structuralism
iii) New Criticism	vi) Formalism

4. a) Discuss some of the assumptions shared by different branches of feminist literary theorists. (5 marks)

- b) Show how deconstructionists go about their critical projects? (10 marks)

5. How successful has Mariama Ba utilized the theories of feminism, deconstruction and structuralism in *So Long a Letter* (1981)? (15 marks)

6. According to Wimsatt and Beardsley, the words on the page were all that mattered; importation of meaning from outside the text was quite irrelevant.” In reference to New Criticism and selected theoretical approach(es), explain the relevance of this statement. (15 marks)

7. Using any of theoretical approaches you think most appropriate, attempt an analysis of the following piece of writing titled “The Death of my Father” by Dr. Henry Indangazi. (15 marks)