



**THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA**  
**A. M. E. C. E. A**

P.O. Box 62157  
00200 Nairobi – Kenya  
Telephone: 891601-6  
Fax: 254-20-891084  
e-mail: academics@cuea.edu

**GABA CAMPUS - ELDORET**  
**MAIN EXAMINATION**  
**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2021 TRIMESTER**  
**FACULTY ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES LITERATURE & COMMUNICATION**  
**REGULAR PROGRAMME**  
**LIT 401: AFRICAN LITERATURE**

**Date:** December 2021

**Duration:** 2 Hours

**Instructions:** Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** Questions

**QUESTION ONE**

- a) Using texts studied in this course for illustration, discuss the unique features that define the African Literature. **(15 Marks)**
- b) Clearly show how orature and oral traditions have influenced the growth of Modern African Literature. **(15 Marks)**

**QUESTION TWO**

With valid illustrations from texts studied in this course, clearly show that the Afrocentric schools of thought is arguably a reflection of authentic and aesthetic of African Literature especially in the African prose. **(20 Marks)**

**QUESTION THREE**

*“.....any true African literature must be written in African languages otherwise the writers and their western mid-wives (critics or publishers) would be merely pursuing a dead end which can only lead to sterility, creativity and frustrations.”*

Obi Wali (1963). Using texts studied in this course, review the concept of language debate in relation to the growth of African literature. **(20 Marks)**

**QUESTION FOUR**

The study of the works of African women writers is an engaging experience because it provides a rich opportunity for critics of African Literature to re-evaluate

the contribution of women writers to the growth of African Literature. With this in mind, discuss the place and role of women in the growth of African literature.

**(20 Marks)**

#### **QUESTION FIVE**

**Either**

Leopold Sedar Senghor, David Diop, Kofi Anyidoho, Wole Soyinka amongst others are the most celebrated Modern African poets. Clearly show how their writing influenced the celebration of Black Nationalism and Modern African poetry. **(20 Marks)**

**Or**

*The Trials of Dedan Kimathi* by Ngugi Wa Thion'go and Ngugi Wa Mirii, *Trials of Brother Jere* by Wole Soyinka and Francis Imbuga's *Betrayal in the City*, concerns itself mainly with the betrayal of the aspirations of the masses of people in a post-colonial African society. Validate this assertion showing how dramatic strategies are marshaled to achieve this objective. **(20 Marks)**

**\*END\***