THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

LANGATA CAMPUS

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SCHOOL FOCUSED PROGRAMME

MLA 503: THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON AFRICAN LITERATURE

Date: April 2015	Duration: 3 Hours
Instructions: Answer Question ONE and any other THREE Questions	

Q1.   African literature communicates history. It represents African society African people, African culture. African literature is African (Harrow 2007). Critically analyse FIVE aspects that characterize what is referred to as "Modern African Literature."

(15 marks)

Q2.   The narrative has slipped out of the hands of those who had control of it before (Gurnah). African writers now tell their own story (Achebe, Gurnah) and spell their own name (Achebe). The centre has moved to Africa (Ngugi). Use these views to analyse the changing theoretical perspectives on Modern African literature.

(15 marks)

Q3.   Examine the relationship between African literature and its audience, based on the three phases of African literature.

(15 marks)

Q4.   Orality and literacy intersect continuously in African literary history: Evaluate the incorporation of African literary traditions in Modern renderings of African literary productions. Use illustrations from specific creative works

(15 marks)

Q5.   Critically analyse three different perspectives on the question of identify in African literature.

(15 marks)

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Q6. Either
a) "African films present versions of Africa that contest and subvert popular Eurocentric accounts." (Mbye Cham). Justify this view with reference to one African film.

(15 marks)

Or;
b) What is African feminism? Drawing illustrations from two literary texts you are familiar with, elaborate on three arguments of the proponents of African feminism.

(15 marks)

END