



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2018 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE

REGULAR PROGRAMME

MLT 502: CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Date: APRIL 2018

Duration: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any FOUR Questions

- Q1. History is a vital condition for the existence and understanding of any nation's literature. Elaborate on this statement drawing illustrations from two works of literature. Focus on THREE points from each text. **(15 marks)**
- Q2. Literature is a cultural production. It exists in the context of the people's overall experience and aesthetic values (Tanure Ojaide). Elaborate on this perspective with reference to two literary texts. **(15 marks)**
- Q3. While European Industrialization saw the economic and political development of a number of nations, it also brought with it numerous challenges. Critically analyse THREE literary strategies used in two specific texts to explore these challenges. **(15 marks)**
- Q4. Critically analyse FIVE ways in which African literary artists participate in what Linda Smith has described as "decolonizing methodologies". Make reference to two specific texts **(15 marks)**
- Q5. **Either**
- a) Choose one text that you have read for this course and discuss FIVE ways in which its form, structure and content reflect the social, political, economic and cultural contexts of its setting. **(15 marks)**

Or

b) Critically examine the representation of identity in any literary work covered in this course. Focus on FIVE points. **(15 marks)**

Q6. Evaluate the influence of digital space on the production and study of contemporary literature. Provide ample illustrations from works of literature that you are familiar with. **(15 marks)**

END