



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

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SEPTEMBER –DECEMBER 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION

REGULAR PROGRAMME

LIT 302: THEORY AND HISTORY OF LITERATURE

SPECIAL EXAMINATION

Date: DECEMBER 2021	Duration: 2 Hours
INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any TWO Questions	

- Q1. With reference to five points from texts studied in this course, demonstrate your understanding of the significant relationship between history, literary theory and literary criticism. **(30 marks)**
- Q2 In the creations of their work, artists are always influenced by the historical processes of the period. Critically assess this assertion making specific reference to five examples from any work you are familiar with. **(20 marks)**
- Q3 Highlight the five major shortcomings in Plato's and Aristotle's arguments in addressing the role of literature and writers in the contemporary society. **(20 marks)**
- Q4. Use appropriate theories to compare and contrast Sophocles **Oedipus** and Imbuga's **Aminata**. **(20 marks)**

Q5. Choose one theory studied in this course and use it to analyze **either** Chinua Achebe's **A Man of the People** or Charles Dickens' **Great Expectations**.

(20

marks)

Q5. Justify the statement that Western literary theories are **NOT** applicable to the study of African literature. Make close reference to the contribution of any

ONE

of the following contemporary African critics:

- i) Chinua Achebe
- ii) Ngugi wa Thiong'o
- iii) Okot p'Biket

(20 marks)

END