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KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS, 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS
FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)
KLT 2105:THEORY OF LITERATURE

Date: 8th December, 2022
Time:2.30pm-4.30pm

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Briefly explain the differences between the terms literary theory and literary criticism as used in Literature. [4 marks]
- b) According to Rita Felski, what are the uses of Literature? [8 marks].
- c) What is Marxist Feminism? [3 marks]
- d) Using Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Ngugi wa Mirii's *I Will Marry When I Want*, describe the key tenets of Marxist theory. [9 marks].
- e) Briefly describe Queer theory. [6 marks]

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Evaluate the importance of theory in literary criticism. [10 marks]
- b) "Feminist criticism focuses on a revision of gender roles as an effective way of changing power relations between men and women in society." Discuss the statement using Mariama Ba's *So Long a Letter*. [10 marks].

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Briefly explain the following concepts as used in psychoanalytic Theory. [10 marks]
 - i. Denial.
 - ii. Displacement.
 - iii. Fear of abandonment.
 - iv. The meaning of death.
 - v. The meaning of sexuality.
- b) Discuss the formal elements in Marjorie Oludhe MacGoye's attached poem, 'A Freedom Song.'

[10 marks].

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Evaluate the major principles of **ONE** of the following literary theories:
- i. Structuralist Criticism. [10 marks]
 - ii. Postcolonial Criticism. [10 marks]
 - iii. Deconstruction. [10 marks]
- b) With reference to Wanuri Kahiu's *Pumzi*, discuss the major concerns of ecocriticism. [10 marks]

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Concretely distinguish the major differences between Afrofuturism from Africanfuturism? [10 marks]
- b) Use Nnedi Okorafor's concept of African futurism to analyse her short story, "Mother of Invention." [10 marks]

A FREEDOM SONG

By Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye (Kenya)

Atieno washes dishes,

Atieno plucks the chicken,

Atieno gets up early,

Beds her sucks down in the kitchen,

Atieno eight years old

Atieno yo.

Since she's my sister's child

Atieno needs no pay

While she works my wife can sit

Sewing each sunny day,

With her earning I support

Atieno yo.

Atieno's sly and jealous

Bad example to the kids

Since she minds them, like a school girl

Wants their dresses, shoes and beads.

Atieno ten years old,

Atieno yo.

Now my wife has gone to study
Atieno's less free,
Don't I feed her, school my own ones,
Pay the party, union fee
All for progress? Aren't you grateful,
Atieno yo?

Visitors need much attention,
Specially when I work nights.
That girl stays too long at market
Who will teach her what is right?
Atieno rising fourteen,
Atieno yo.

Atieno's had a baby
So we know that she is bad
Fifty-fifty it may live
To repeat the life she had,
Ending in post partum bleeding
Atieno yo.

Atieno's soon replaced
Meat and sugar more than all
She ate in such a narrow life
Were lavished in her funeral
Atieno's gone to glory
Atieno yo.