



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

SECOND YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR  
OF EDUCATION ARTS

### ELI 3200: GENDER AND LITERATURE

DATE: DECEMBER 2023

TIME: 2 HOURS

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer Question *One* (Compulsory) and any other *Two* Questions.

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#### QUESTION ONE - (30 MARKS)

- Explain why gender and sex in literature should be differentiated? (15 Marks)
- How does Feminism seek to address women issues in literature? (5 Marks)
- State how masculinity as a literary criterion is manifested in literature. (5 Marks)
- African women writers address contemporary issues in literature. Illustrate. (5 Marks)

#### QUESTION TWO – (20 MARKS)

- How has *The River and The Source* by Margaret Ogola and *Aminata* by Francis Imbuga explicated key issues in which the tenets of Feminism movement are anchored? (10 Marks).
- Using any two South African writers, discuss the treatment of women in literature and South African society. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE - (20 MARKS)**

- a) Illustrate the manifestations of gender biases in mainstream literature. Use ‘*A Doll’s House*’ by Henry Ibsen and ‘*The Government Inspector*’ by George Orwell for your illustrations. (10 Marks)
- b) ‘*Coming to Birth*’ by Marjorie Oludhe and ‘*Petals of Blood*’ by Ngugi wa Thiong’o treat gender issues as contemporary. Discuss. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) How has Characterization in Peter Abraham’s ‘*Mine Boy*’ and Francis Imbuga’s ‘*Betrayal in the City*’ continued to subordinate women in literature? (10 Marks)
- b) Using any three texts studied in this unit demonstrate how Affirmative Action and gender parity constitute emerging issues in contemporary literature. (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – (20 MARKS)**

- a) Using any two texts studied in this unit discuss how Patriarchy has propagated the marginalization of women in literature and society. (10 Marks)
- b) Analyze any three texts studied in this unit from a Feminist perspective in terms of thematic concerns. (10 Marks).