

**MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MUST)**

**LITERATURE DEPARTMENT**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS: January – April 2023. (MAIN EXAM).**

**UNIT CODE: ELI 3250. Oral Literature and Drama in Kenya.**

Instructions.

1. Answer three questions.
2. Question one is compulsory.
3. Do not duplicate materials
4. NB. In all your responses use different texts for your illustrations, at least three.

**QUESTION ONE.**

- a. Define Oral Literature. (5 marks)
- b. How does oral literature differ from oral tradition and folklore? (5 marks)
- c. What are the resilient features of oral literature? (5 marks)
- d. Enumerate the different the genres of oral literature and their distinctiveness (10 marks)
- e. Drama in Kenya is hinged on oral traditions, rituals, and customs, do you agree? Illustrate. (5 marks)

**QUESTION TWO.**

- a. Using any two oral literature theoretical frameworks illustrate how theory has impacted on the oral literature scholarship. (10 marks)
- b. Why is performance an aspect in the study of oral literature? (10 marks)

**QUESTION THREE.**

- a. Trace the development of oral literature discipline in East Africa. (10 marks)
- b. Illustrate the unique characteristics which have shaped drama in Kenya in the different phases. Use any two texts for your illustrations. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR.**

- a. How does “The Trial of Dedan Kimathi” by Ngugi wa Thiong’o and Micere Mugo differ from “Aminata” by Francis Imbuga? (10 marks)
- b. examine the importance of fieldwork in the study of oral literature. (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE.**

- a. Interrogate the effectiveness of Dramatic strategies employed by Ngugi wa Thiong’o and Francis Imbuga in “Ngaika Ndenda” and “The Successor” respectively. (20 marks)