



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya.
Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, +254 (0)712 524 293
Website: www.must.ac.ke Email: info@mucst.ac.ke

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

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

ELI 3150: EAST AFRICAN LITERATURE: PROSE AND POETRY

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Give an analysis of the terms ‘prose’ and ‘poetry’ (5 Marks)
- b) Attempt a brief definition of these terms, giving relevant illustrations:
- metonymy
 - allusion
 - litotes (9 Marks)
- c) Characterization is a major element in the shaping of a work of prose. Using a novel recommended in this unit justify this claim. (10 Marks)
- d) Discuss two types of poems. Give illustrations. (6 Marks)



QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) East African short stories addressed among things social concerns aimed at shaping society positively. Justify this claim drawing illustrations from a short story from East Africa. (10 Marks)
- b) Colonialism has influenced the literature of East Africa. Use a novel from East Africa to support this assertion. (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

“Poetry is naturally rhythmic and musical, while prose is narrative in nature.” validate this statement with relevant examples. (20 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Using Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s *The River Between* or Mary Okurut’s *The Invisible Weevil*, briefly discuss how the use of characters reflect members of society in East Africa. (20 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Using the poem below, discuss five language styles used and their significance (20 Marks)

Whititude

A.S Bukenya

I envied his being Negro;
For there he was with his hardened face
That told of night and her mystery,
Of age and varied experience,
In shame, in fear, in joy, his hue the same,
Unlike my baby skin that told of all I felt,
And while I pitied him for being black,
I feared he had a depth known to me,
Which his darkness hid.