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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
ALI 102: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY APPRECIATION (SCHOOL BASED)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions
- Avoid duplication of material in answer to more than one question

Q1. (a) You have come across a written text. Describe any FIVE factors that you will consider before you can categorize it as a literary piece. (15mks)

(b) With clear illustrations, discuss the differences between the writing techniques employed in the texts 'A' and 'B' below. (15mks)

TEXT A

Rev. Jackson has set Jan.25 for a meeting in Washington, D. C., at the Omni Shoreham hotel where he and other key members of the movement have invited the Democratic candidates to be quizzed on a variety of domestic and foreign issues.

However, Dr. Lenora Fulani, an African American candidate for the presidency and a New York resident, who recently received Federal matching funds far exceeding the amount the amount obtained by some of the other contenders, was not invited Rev. Jackson and company.

-NEW YORK AMSTERDAM NEWS, JANUARY 4, 1992

(Adapted from Lenora Fulani's The Making of a Fringe Candidate)

TEXT B

Outside the hot and stuffy room, clothes danced on the squeaking washline, flies buzzed freely in and out of the window and the lavatory stank. He was now convinced he would never get used to it. When he first moved into Dacca house he had thought- just a week or two and it will get better. Instead it had got worse as the tenants continued to eat and defecate. The bowl was piled high with dung that wouldn't move on and make room for more, while the residents continued to churn out manure like a fertilizer factory. The smell that invaded the rooms could kill any malnourished human being. The bathroom man had disconnected the old and rusty cistern to avoid neighbours unwittingly flushing the toilet and flooding the floor with the broth which would inevitably overflow and form a pool at his doorstep.

(Adapted from Meja Mwangi's The Cockroach Dance)

Q2. Pick out any FOUR major characters in Ngugi wa Thiongo's *The River Between* and

analyze them as victims of cultural conflict. (20mks)

Q3. 'A short story is a miracle of condensation.' Using any TWO short stories from the anthology *When the Sun Goes Down*, explore the validity of this statement. (20mks)

Q. 4. Analyze the form and content of the following poem. (20mks)

BACK HOME

I went back home:
Back to the old homestead
With a ring of old huts
Surrounding a wide compound
Swept clean for children to play
And yell and laugh and cry.

I walked briskly, thinking of home:
Smoke rising from the huts
Filtered through the thatched roofs
Dripping wet after showers of rain;
Moist ground in the compound,
Grandpa sitting on his stool,
And sipping from his gourd,
Birds singing in the mango tree.

And then finally I arrived home:
The air heavy with silence
Huts, down in dry heaps of dilapidation,
Shoots of scorched elephant grass
Growing piously in the compound,
A carpet of mango leaves
Falling on the mound of earth
Under which was buried but the tip –
Yes, only the tip of grandpa's walking staff
Could be seen peeping from under the earth
Pointing down to where the owner lay:
The lasting symbol
Of his inability to talk again
Except by echoes of silence
Telling me I went back too late.

By Jwani Mwaikusa

Adapted from Echoes Across the Valley

Q5. Highlight any FIVE stylistic devices employed by Francis Imbuga in his play

Aminata. (20mks)

