



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERARY STUDIES & COMMUNICATION  
STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION ARTS WITH IT  
2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
MAIN CAMPUS- INSTITUTION BASED PROGRAMME**

---

**COURSE CODE: ZLB 9213**

**COURSE TITLE: LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM**

**EXAM VENUE:**

**STREAM:**

**DATE:**

**EXAM SESSION:**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

---

**Instructions:**

- 1. Answer Question ONE (COMPULSORY) and ANY other 2 questions**
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room.**

- 1 (a) Giving adequate examples, discuss the functions of literary criticism. (10 Marks)
- (b) Mariama Ba's *So Long A Letter* is an echo of the Feminist Literary Theory. Using relevant illustrations, assess the validity of this statement. (20 Marks)
2. Drawing your illustrations from Ngugi's *Weep Not Child*, discuss the contention that the interest of Marxist literature is to defend the course of the oppressed. (20 Marks)
3. With the aid of relevant illustrations from *Oedipus Rex* examine the assertion that repressed desires often surface in the unconscious, motivating the actions of characters in a work of literature. (20 Marks)
4. Using the tenets of Postcolonial theory, discuss the contention that Okot p' Biteks *Song of Lawino* is a counter narrative that sufficiently dismantles the western narrative about the natives of Africa. (20 Marks)
5. Citing illustrations from any text studied in this course, discuss the key tenets of Formalism. (20 Marks)