



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS  
4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER 2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR  
RESIT/SPECIAL**

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<b>COURSE CODE:</b>	<b>ALI 405</b>
<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	<b>AUTOBIOGRAPHY</b>
<b>EXAM VENUE:</b>	<b>STREAM:</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>EXAM SESSION:</b>
<b>TIME:</b>	<b>2.00 HOURS</b>

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**Instructions:**

- 1. Answer question ONE and ANY other two.**
- 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) With adequate illustrations, briefly demonstrate your understanding of the following literary concepts with specific relevance to the autobiographic genre. (10 Marks)

- i) Introspections                      iii) Dialogue
- ii) Characterization                  iv) Descriptive language

b) “There are times when the story of one life is so interwoven with the story of its time, when the thought and conduct of one individual soul is so typical of the life of its generation, that to tell the story of one, is to tell that of the other.” Examine the validity of this statement with ample illustrations from *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, Odinga’s *Not Yet Uhuru* or Mandela’s *Long Walk to Freedom*. (20 Marks)

2. EITHER

“Whereas narration in *The African Child* is too simple and trivial a manner, *Nervous Conditions* exemplifies an intricately and creatively woven story”. Critically examine the validity of this statement. (20 Marks)

OR

Critically explore Ngugi wa Thiongo’s *A Prison Diary* or Nelson Mandela’s *Long Walk to Freedom* as products of detention and prison experiences. (20 Marks)

3. Using three autobiographies, discuss the relevance of their titles to the genre. (20 Marks)

4. Using at least two autobiographies encountered in this course, compare strategies used to portray pre-colonial rural life in Africa. (20 Marks)

5. In a logically organized essay, discuss the centrality of grandparents to the personality of at least three autobiographers studied in the course. (20 Marks)

OR

Drawing illustrations from at least three texts of your choice, examine the validity of the assertion that the mother holds a pivotal role in the life of autobiographers. (20 Marks)