



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2012/2013**

**2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE  
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS WITH IT**

**(SCHOOL BASED-MAIN)**

**COURSE CODE: ALI 201**

**TITLE: LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE USE**

**DATE: 2/4/2013**

**TIME: 14.00-16.00PM**

**DURATION: 2 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. This paper contains FIVE (5) questions**
- 2. Answer question 1 (Compulsory) and ANY other 2 Questions**
- 3. Write all answers in the booklet provided**

Q1. Using relevant examples from any language of your choice, explain the following characteristics of human language [30mks]

- a) Language as symbolic systems
- b) Adequacy
- c) Capacity for growth
- d) Historical change
- e) Language as species specific

Q2. Discuss the various critical standpoints inherent in literary writing in indigenous African languages: merits and demerits [20mks]

Q3. Drawing illustrations from English language explain any five factors that affect the understanding of meaning [20mks]

Q4. With reference to Achebe's *Arrow of God* and Okot P'Bitek's *Song of Lawino*, discuss the use of in proverbs in the texts

**Q5. Read the passage below and answer the question that follows:**

She was a thin and gnarled old woman with rope hair, the colour of used, dirty—white knitting wool; ancient; liquid eyes stared out of the brown clawed face with a bright, fierce dignity. Her hands folded in the laps of the frayed coat, were hard and knotted like tangled skeins of brown cord. She wore the coat in spite of the heat, and the imitation fur collar had scaly bald patches as if it suffered from some kind of skin disease.

**Question:** Write a critical appreciation of the quoted passage assessing its total impact through the deliberate choice of linguistic items and their use [20mks]