



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

ALT 100: CRITICAL READING AND RESPONSE

DATE: Wednesday, 9th April, 2014

TIME: 4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **THREE** questions.

Question **ONE** is **Compulsory**.

1. Using examples from texts studied in this course, show how critical reading allows the reader to actively engage a text and become an active constructor of meaning. (26 marks)

2. a) The story “Magic” by Chris VanWyk suggests that it is virtually impossible to alter human behaviour? Do you agree? (22 marks)
OR
b) With clear illustrations from Mark Mathabane’s Kaffir Boy, discuss how the main character was able to persist and rise above the system despite the atrocities and indignities he and his family suffered under apartheid. (22 marks)

3. How is George Orwell’s style in “Shooting an Elephant” affected by his attitude to his work, his superiors and to his subordinates? (22 marks)

4. How far, would you say, does the historical and cultural distance limit your understanding of "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin? (22 marks)
5. Critically assess the following poem: (22 marks)

Beauty

Look not at thyself
Ye that is beautiful
For the many eyes that there are
Will at you candidly stare
Be it an innocent act of will
Or an inadvertent steal of glance
At your captivating beautiful charm

Hate not thyself
Ye that doubteth thy beauty
For in the eyes of the beholder
Indeed lies true beauty
So behold at thyself
And realize how beautiful
Thou truly art

Beauty as it is
Is deep in the skin
But what in the heart is
Defines who we are
Irrespective of our colour

Chrise Ambrose