



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

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

ALT 101: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES

DATE: Wednesday, 26th July 2017

TIME: 8.00a.m-10.00a.m

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer question ONE and any other TWO

1. What are the significant generic differences between prose, drama and poetry? Support your answer with illustrations from texts studied in this course. (26marks)
2. What is drama? Explain your answer using illustrations from Francis Imbuga's *The Successor*. (22marks)
3. Explain the generic characteristics of the novel using *Weep Not, Child* to illustrate your answer. (22marks)
4. What is the relevance of oral literature in the modern society? Explain drawing illustrations from various genres of oral literature. (22marks)
5. Using the following poem, explain how stylistic devices influence the meaning of a poem. (22marks)

My Grandmother's House by Kamala Das

There is a house now far away where once
I received love . . . that woman died,
The house withdrew into silence, snakes moved
Among books I was then too young
To read, and my blood turned cold like the moon,
How often I think of going
There, to peer through blind eyes of windows or
Just listen to the frozen air,
Or in wild despair, pick an armful of
Darkness to bring it here to lie

Behind my bedroom door like a brooding
Dog . . . you cannot believe, darling,
Can you, that I lived in such a house and
Was proud, and loved . . . I who have lost
My way and beg now at strangers' doors to
Receive love, at least in small change?