



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALT 403: MODERN EUROPEAN LITERATURE

DATE: Monday, 15th May 2017

TIME: 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS. QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY. USE CLEAR EXAMPLES. AVOID GRAMMATICAL ERRORS AND VAGUENESS

1. a) In reference to any five books you have read in this course, define and illustrate any five defining aspects of modern European literature. (10 Marks)
b) Explain how streams of consciousness help to create transitions of time and place in Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*. (10 Marks)
c) Basing your response on Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, or Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, identify and show how any five stylistic devices help to develop thematic concerns in the text. (10 Marks)
2. a) Show how various forms of death, degeneration and other tragic losses are explored in T. S. Eliot's *The Wasteland*, and other poems that you have studied in this course. (10 Marks)
b) Identify and explain any five major conflicts in Thomas Mann's *Doctor Faustus*, or Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *The Love-Girl and the Innocent*. (10 Marks)
3. a) Explain how any five major concerns in George Orwell's *1984*, or Ford Madox Ford's *The Good Soldier* relate to the contemporary African experience. (10 Marks)
b) In which ways do any **two** major characters help to explore the critical issues in Jose Saramago's *Blindness*? (10 Marks)

4. a) Name and illustrate five aspects of style or form which make Franz Kafka's *The Trial* a masterpiece in modern European literature. (10 Marks)
- b) Identify and explain the ways in which Albert Camus' *The Stranger* explores the themes of identity and knowledge. (10 Marks)
5. a) Justify any five reasons why you would recommend Kingsley Amis' *Lucky Jim*, or David Lodge's *Changing Places* to other readers. (10 Marks)
- b) Identify and illustrate any five major differences between Jean Genet's *The Balcony*, and Harold Pinter's *The Homecoming*. (10 Marks)
6. a) Which major characters do you identify with and like most in Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*, or Hanif Kureishi's *The Black Album*? Justify your answer. (10 Marks)
- b) Show how space and time affect the various characters in Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*. (10 Marks)