



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016

INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (IBP) – DECEMBER 2015 SESSION
EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION
ALT 102: INTRODUCTION TO EAST AFRICAN ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: Wednesday, 27th April 2016

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

INSTRUCTIONS

ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS. QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY

1. Oral Literature exists by virtue of its performance. Discuss this assertion with reference to the East African Oral Literature. (20 Marks)
2. Discuss five elements which constitute any utterance as verbal art. (20 Marks)
3. Present an analysis of the factors that have contributed to the development of the study and appreciation of Oral Literature in Eastern African. (20 Marks)
4. Give a crucial appraisal of the importance of fieldwork in the study of oral literature. (20 Marks)
5. What is the relationship between oral literature and society? Illustrate your answer appropriately. (20 Marks)
6. Study the following and then answer the questions which follow:

God then let down a bark-rope... from the sky and began to let cattle down, until there were so many that they intermingled with those of the Dorobo. Then the Dorobo came, and when he could no longer recognize his cattle among those of the Maasai, he was angry and shot away the bark-rope with an arrow.... God caused the cattle to stop descending and he moved up into the sky, and was never seen on the ground again. Thus all the cattle which Maasai now own were first given to them by God, and it is because the Dorobo lost his cattle by not listening to God that he must hunt wild animals for his food.

 - i) Giving justifications, classify the above oral literature material. (4 Marks)
 - ii) With which community does the narrator of the story seem to identify? Justify your answer. (4 Marks)
 - iii) Explain the implied functions of the above narrative in the context of the narrator's community. (12 Marks)