



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

MAY SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF ARTS
AND BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

ALT 302: POETRY

DATE: Monday, 28th July 2014

TIME: 4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer Three questions only
2. Question One is compulsory
1. Drawing your illustrations from poems studied in this course, discuss your understanding of the following:
 - (i) Open versus closed poetic forms. (10 marks)
 - (ii) Descriptive versus narrative poetry. (16 marks)
2. Using two poems of your choice, discuss any four sense devices in poetry. (22 marks)
3. With appropriate examples from the poetry of Dennis Brutus or any other poet you have studied, discuss how the poet brings out the issue of protest. (22 marks)
4. Using specific examples from poems studied in this course, discuss how title, setting and context contributes to the understanding of poetry.
5. Critically respond to the poem below: (22 marks)

Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds

Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove.
O, no! it is an ever-fixed mark,
That looks on tempests and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Times fool, though rosy lips and cheeks

Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

6. Using the poem below, show the various poetic devices used in poetry.

ENTERPRISE BY NISSIM EZEKIEL

It started as a pilgrimage
Exalting minds and making all
The burdens light. The second stage
Explored but did not test the call.
The sun beat down to match our rage. 5
We stood it very well, I thought.
Observed and put down copious notes
On things the peasants sold and bought
The way of surpants and of goats.
Three cities where a sage had taught 10
But when the differences arose
On how to cross a desert patch,
We lost a friend whose stylist prose
Was quite the best of all our batch.
A shadow falls on us and grows. 15
Another phase was reached when we
Were twice attacked, and lost our way.
A section claimed its liberty
To leave the group. I tried to prey.
Our leader said he smelt the sea 20
We noticed nothing as we went,
A straggling crowd of little hope,
Ignoring what the thunder meant,
Deprived of common needs like soap.
Some were broken, some merely bent. 25
When, finally, we reached the place,
We hardly know why we were there.
The trip had darkened every face,
Our deeds were neither great nor rare.
Home is where we have to gather grace.