



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012
INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (IBP) – DECEMBER SESSION
EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS
MAL 504: ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: Wednesday, 2nd May, 2012

TIME: 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **THREE** questions. Question **ONE** is Compulsory.

1. **COMPULSORY**

In what ways can we say that the definition of Oral Literature is as problematic as that of written Literature? (26 marks)

2. Deriving illustrations from the culture of your community, discuss the centrality of Oral performance in the conception, delivery and reception of the art. (22 marks)

3. “Proverbs are the palm oil with which words are eaten”. Basing your answer on the statement above, discuss the role of proverbs in your community. (22 marks)

4. Discuss ways in which technology has affected the teaching and interpretation of Oral Literature today. (22 marks)

5. Applying theory in the interpretation of an Oral narrative, demonstrate your understanding of **either** functionalism or psychoanalysis. (22 marks)

6. Supporting your answer with appropriate examples, discuss the idea that the deconstruction theory has revolutionized the way we assign meaning in Oral Literature. (22 marks)