



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAM (2020/2021)

COURSE CODE /TITLE: LIT 410: MODERN AFRICAN POETRY

Time :2 hours

Instructions: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions in this paper.

1. a) Examine how Okot PBitek brings out the clash between Western culture and African culture in his two texts song of Lawino and the song of ocol. (15 marks)
- b) What are the effects of colonialism on Africans as brought out in the works of any two African poets.
(7 marks)
- c) Read the poem below and answer the following questions;

I speak for the Bush

When my friends sees me
He swells and pants like a frog
Because I talk the wisdom of the bush
He says we from the bush
Do not understand civilized ways
For we tell our women
To keep their dresses
Below their knee.
We from the bush, my friends insists

Do not know how to enjoy
When we come to the civilized city,
Like nuns, we stay away from night clubs
Where women belong to no woman
And these civilized people
Quarrel and fight like hungry lions

But, my friend, why do men
With crippled legs, lifeless eyes
Wooden legs, empty stomachs
Wander about the streets
Of the civilized world

Teach me, my friend, the trick,
So that my eyes may not
See those whose houses have no walls,
But emptiness all around;
Show me wax you use
To seal yours ears
To stop hearing the cry of the hungry;

Teach me the new wisdom
Which tells men
To talk about the money and not love
When they meet women;

Tell your God to convert
Me to the faith of the indifferent,

The faith of those
Who will never listen until
They are shaken with blows

I speak for the bush!

You speak for the civilized

Will you hear me By S. Mbiti

- a) Describe the attitudes that are contrasted here. (2 marks)
 - b) Discuss stylistic devices used by the poet (2 marks)
 - c) Describe four major concerns of the poet using illustration from the poem
(4 marks)
- 2 a) Explain what you understand by the term Negritude movement in modern African poetry (5 marks)
- b) Critically evaluate the distinctive features of Negritude poetry using illustration from poems by Negritude writers you have covered in this course (10 marks)
- 3 a) Discuss three major concerns in African poetry. Illustrate your answers with examples from poems you have read in this course. (15 marks)
- 4 Modern African poetry is largely a response to historical realities by African poets. Critically respond to this statement with illustrations from any four poets studied in this course. (15 marks)
- 5 Discuss how the poets have successfully used African true nature in their poems Cite examples of the poems you learned in this course (15marks)
- 6 In your view what are the roles of poetry in society. (15 marks)