



KISII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS
THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE
DEGREE BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS
FIRST SEMESTER, 2021/2022
(JULY, 2022)

LITT 314: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

STREAM: Y3 S1

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY: TUESDAY, 8:00 – 10:00 A.M.

DATE: 26/07/2022

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Do not write anything on this question paper.***
- 2. Answer question ONE and any other TWO Questions.***

QUESTION ONE

- What elements make a text African American Literature? (12 marks)
- Discuss elements of the black aesthetic considered essential to African American Literature (18 marks)

QUESTION TWO

Frederick Douglass' fight with Covey is symbolic of a larger issue in his struggle for humanity. Describe the things against which Douglass was fighting and why his fight was so important for the educated and uneducated, blacks and whites, females and males of his day and our day.

(20 marks)

QUESTION THREE

Do the Right Thing is a film that takes place during a 24-hour period in Brooklyn NY, across the river from New York City. It is also clearly set in the present (1989), with music, dress, and social concerns identified throughout that viewers at the time would have been completely familiar with, black and white. Yet the film also deals with the history of black struggle in America. How?

(20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

With examples from Toni Morrison's *Beloved* or any other African American that you studied in this course:

- a) Explain why slave narratives were written in America?
- b) Comment on the settings, plots and authors of these slave narratives
- c) What is the significance of the prefaces and introductions found in many slave narratives?

QUESTION FIVE

- a) What were the reasons for the emergence of Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s?
- b) Comment on the literary and cultural scene of Harlem Renaissance.
- c) What ideas did the writers and artists share and how did their opinions differ?

QUESTION SIX

James Baldwin is one of the consequential contributors to the African American literature. Using illustrations from at least two works of the author, examine this statement.