



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR  
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 1103**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE**

**DATE: 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**TIME: 0830 - 1030HRS**

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## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Section A is compulsory.

Attempt **TWO** other questions, **ONE** from Section B and another from Section C

## SECTION A (General Questions and Poetry)

1. Discuss the utility of literature in society. **(16mks)**

2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow. **(14mks)**

### Western Civilization

Sheet of tin nailed to posts  
driven in the ground  
Make up a house.

Some rags complete  
The intimate landscape.

The sun slanting through the cracks  
Welcomes the owner

After twelve hours of slave  
Labour.

Breaking rock  
Shifting rock  
Breaking rock  
Shifting rock  
Fair weather  
Wet weather  
Breaking rock  
Shifting rock

Old age comes early

A mat on dark nights  
Is enough when he dies  
Gratefully  
Of hunger.

Agostino Neto

- i. Where is the setting of the poem. **(2mks)**
- ii. Discuss the subject matter of the poem. **(2mks)**
- iii. Comment on the tone and the mood of the poem. **(4mks)**
- iv. Describe the rhythm of the poem. **(2mks)**
- iv. Identify and explain the employment of any two stylistic devices. **(4mks)**

## SECTION B: THE PROSE.

3. Discuss the cultural clash emanating out of colonial intrusion in any prose fiction you have read in this course. **(20mks)**

4. 'Chinua Achebe's *A man of The People* is a satire.' Discuss **(20mks)**

## SECTION C: THE DRAMA.

5. Use either Francis Imbuga's *Betrayal in the City*, or Nikolai Gogol's *Government Inspector* to explain five basic means in which we learn literary character's traits. **(20mks)**

6. Evaluate the performance of officers in Nikolai Gogol's *Government Inspector*. **(20mks)**

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