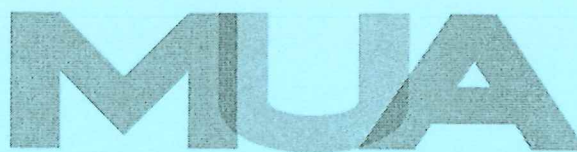


The  
Management  
University  
of Africa



Sponsored by the Kenya Institute of Management

---

UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

LIT 112: THEORIES AND CONCEPTS OF ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.

## QUESTION ONE

Read the following case study carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The concept of an *oral* literature is an unfamiliar one to most people brought up in cultures which, like those of contemporary Europe, lay stress on the idea of literacy and written tradition. In the popular view it seems to convey on the one hand the idea of mystery, on the other hand that of crude and artistically undeveloped formulations. In fact, neither of these assumptions is generally valid. Nevertheless, there are certain definite characteristics of this form of art which arise from its oral nature, and it is important at the outset to point to the implications of these. They need to be understood before we can appreciate the status and qualities of many of these African literary forms.

**Required:**

- a) Describe the relationship of culture and oral literature. (6 marks)
- b) Explain the "popular view" described in this case study. (7 marks)
- c) Discuss the difference between oral and written literature. (8 marks)
- d) Explain two characteristics of oral literature. (4 marks)

## QUESTION TWO

- a) Examine three importance of studying oral literature. (9 marks)
- b) Discuss the importance of performance in oral literature. (6 marks)

## QUESTION THREE

- a) Describe three approaches of studying oral literature. (9 marks)
- b) Explain three types of oral narratives. (6 marks)

#### QUESTION FOUR

- a) Discuss the theory of Functionalism in interpreting oral literature. **(12 marks)**
- b) Differentiate between a song and an oral poem. **(3 marks)**

#### QUESTION FIVE

- a) "Oral literature helps in the preservation of culture." Discuss. **(10 marks)**
- b) Explain the relationship between the artist and the audience. **(5 marks)**

#### QUESTION SIX

- a) Examine three problems involved in fieldwork. **(9 marks)**
- b) Assess the importance of oral literature in the curriculum. **(6 marks)**

