

M.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION,
NOVEMBER 2022

First Semester

English – Core

AFRICAN LITERATURE

(For those who joined in July 2021 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. The theme of the poem *Close to You* is _____
 (a) Afghan freedom
 (b) American freedom
 (c) African freedom
 (d) Indian freedom
2. The author of the poem *When the Bead Speaks* is _____
 (a) David Diop (b) Ama Ata Aidoo
 (c) Rasanq Malik (d) Lillian Aujo
3. According to Mandela, _____ are the greatest wealth of a nation.
 (a) Gems (b) Diamonds
 (c) Minerals (d) People
4. The essay 'Colonialist Criticism is an attack on a lingering colonialism in the criticism of African literature by _____
 (a) Americans
 (b) Non Africans
 (c) Europeans
 (d) Indians
5. *In the plantation* By Oyet Sisto Ocen, Uncle Tom found us playing in the _____ plantations.
 (a) coconut
 (b) banana
 (c) Paddy
 (d) wheat
6. Ben Okris *What the Tapster Saw* is a short story about a man who taps _____ to make palm wine.
 (a) Coconut tree
 (b) Banana tree
 (c) Banyan tree
 (d) Palm Tree
7. In Athol Fugard's *Master Harold and the Boys*, Hally and Sam refer to 'great men' as
 (a) Social Reformers
 (b) Heroes
 (c) Men of Prominence
 (d) Leaders of their Age
8. In *The Strong Breed* by Wole Soyinka, For how long does Sunma ask Eman to leave the village?
 (a) Twelve years
 (b) A month
 (c) Two days and one night
 (d) Forever
9. In *The Bride Price* by Buchi Emecheta, Ezekiel and Ma Blackie, have _____ children.
 (a) 8 (b) 2
 (c) 1 (d) 5
10. Mumbai is known for her _____ in Ngugi Wa Thiongo's *A Grain of Wheat*.
 (a) Wit
 (b) Beauty
 (c) Intelligence
 (d) Piety

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

11. (a) Write the Summary of Rasanq Malik's poem *Tonight In My Country*.
 Or
 (b) Elucidate the poem *The Eye of Poetry* by Lillian Aujo.
12. (a) Elaborate the theme of Colonialism, Racism and Violence *On National Culture* by Frantz Fanon.
 Or
 (b) Discuss the theme of Nelson Mandela's essay *Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela*.

13. (a) Justify 'culture, identity, fear and horror' in Oyet Sisto Ocen's *In the plantation*.

Or

- (b) Critically Analyse Ben Okri's *What the Tapster Saw*.

14. (a) Write a brief note on the characteristic feature of Willie from Athol Fugard's *Master Harold and the Boys*.

Or

- (b) Identify the theme of discrimination, exile and identity crises from Wole Soyinka's *The Strong Breed*.

15. (a) Compare and Contrast the theme *The Bride Price* by Buchi Emecheta.

Or

- (b) Describe the character sketch of General R, an important character in Ngugi Wa Thiongo's novel *A Grain of Wheat*.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

16. (a) Describe the significance of the poet's patriotism towards his country as well as his hatred towards the colonizers in *Close to You* by David Diop.

Or

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- (b) Identify the theme of Ama Ata Aidoo's poem *When the Bead Speaks* - Explain in detail.

17. (a) According to Nelson Mandela, 'brave men are not those who never feel afraid, but the ones who know how to conquer fear' - Explain.

Or

- (b) Critically comment the Attacks on Universalism and Language in Chinua Achebe's *Colonialist Criticism*.

18. (a) Critically Analyse the theme of Oyet Sisto Ocen's *In the plantation*.

Or

- (b) In Ben Okri's *What the Tapster Saw* 'man who taps palm trees to make palm wine' - Elucidate.

19. (a) Illustrate each character's flaws and merits with example in the play *Master Harold and the Boys* by Athol Fugard.

Or

- (b) Write a critical appreciation of the play *The Strong Breed* by Wole Soyinka.

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20. (a) Explain the theme of Gender roles in the story *The Bride Price Themes* by Buchi Emecheta.

Or

- (b) Discuss Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *A Grain of Wheat* as a historical novel.