



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER REGULAR EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION (Arts)**

COURSE CODE: LIT 320

COURSE TITLE: THEORIES OF ORAL LITERATURE

DATE: 12TH JULY, 2021

TIME: 8:00AM – 11:00AM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

LIT 320: THEORIES IN ORAL LITERATURE

STREAM: BED (Arts)

DURATION: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i. Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.
- ii. Do not write on the question paper.
- iii. Avoid using the same text to answer more than one question

Question One

- a. Theories of oral literature are broadly classified into three: Diachronic, Synchronic and Synchro-diachronic.
 - i. Explain the characteristics of each of these classifications. (15 Marks)
 - ii. Identify **THREE** specific theories under each of these classifications. (9 Marks)
- b. Outline any **THREE** reasons for theorizing Oral Literature. (6 Marks)

Question Two

Apply either *evolutionist* theory or *functionalism* theory in a myth or legend of your choice. (20marks)

Question Three

- a. Briefly explain the basic difference between *formalism* and *structuralism* theories in the study of Oral Literature. (3 Marks)
- b. Identify the **FOUR** basic assumptions of structuralism theory in Oral Literature. (4 Marks)
- c. Outline **either** Levi Strauss **or** Roland Barthes ideas on the analysis of Oral Literature. (8 Marks)
- d. Give **FIVE** fundamental contributions of structuralists to the Study of Oral Literature. (5 Marks)

Question Four

Using examples from the genres of Oral Literature, justify Jacques Derrida's argument that "There exists no unified text, neither is there a single interpretation of the text". (20 Marks)

Question Five

- a. Outline Jacques Lacan's tenets on post-modernist psychoanalysis. (10 Marks)
- b. Carry out an analysis of an Oral Literary text of your choice using Jacques Lacan's ideas. (10 Marks)
