



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

LITT 111: LITERARY CRITICISM

STREAM: R

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: FRIDAY (14.30-16.30PM)

DATE: 8/12/23

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO (2) PAGES

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.



INSTRUCTIONS

- (i) **Instruction to candidates:**
- (ii) **Question one is compulsory.**
- (iii) **Avoid duplication of material in answer in more than one question.**
- (iv) **Do not write on the question paper.**

QUESTION ONE

The Roman poet Horace claimed that literature is both sweet and useful. Explain the validity of this statement with relevant illustrations. (24 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) What is literary criticism. (6marks)
- b) Discuss the role of literary criticism in the study of literature (17marks)

QUESTION THREE

Evaluate the contribution of Plato and Aristotle in the discipline of literary criticism (23mks)

QUESTION FOUR

How are the following characteristics used in the description of characters especially in tragedies?

- i) Peripeteia (8 marks)
- ii) Harmatia (8 marks)
- iii) Hubris (7 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

Basing your answer on Sophocle's *Oedipus the King*, discuss the extent to which Oedipus is a tragic hero according to Aristotelian analysis. (23 marks)

QUESTION SIX

Discuss the significance of the feminist reading of texts. Use any Literary text that you have read in the course. (23 marks)