



PIONEER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Powered by Intellect, Driven by Values

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2021/2022

UNIT NAME: THEORY OF LITERARY

SEMESTER: SEPT-DEC 2021

UNIT CODE: ELIT 2111

DATE: DEC 2021

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question one (30 marks) and any other two

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- (a) Literary scholars require knowledge on theories for them to effectively understand literature material. Discuss (10 marks)
- (b) Marxists believe that literature can instigate revolution. Explain why this is possible in the current political situations in Africa (10 marks)
- (c) Highlight some of the issues that New Criticism scholars are concerned with when studying literary texts (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Justify why studying the literary work of an author is a means of knowing the author as a person (10 marks)
- (b) Every reader brings to the text a unique set of experiences and points of view that alter the meaning of the text (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Formalists assert that each work is a separate entity—not dependent upon the author's life, the culture in which it was created, or any other category to which it belongs (10 marks)
- (b) Describe how aesthetics in literature can be used define to a people's formation (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Explain how literature can be used as an effective tool for understanding a people's culture at a particular time (5 marks)
- (b) Explain FIVE things that a scholar may be interested in when reading a text using the formalism model (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Use illustrations to describe how literature can be said to be a reflection of society (5 marks)
- (b) In order to understand a work, one must fully understand the author's life and values. Citing any well-known literary text, justify this statement (10 marks)

