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University Examinations 2024/2025

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ELI 3401: AFRO-AMERICAN LITERATURE

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- (a) Briefly highlight three major concerns of Afro-American writers. (6 Marks)
- (b) Highlight the role played by the following literary expression in African-American literature
 - (i) Music (5 marks)
 - (ii) Narratives (5 marks)
- c) What is meant by Black Consciousness (4 marks)
- d) List the major challenges faced by African-Americans in during the slave trade period (5 marks)
- e) Explain four reasons as to why animal imagery was common in African-American oral tradition? (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

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Page 1

- (a) Highlight four major characteristics of African-American literature during the period between 1800 and 1860. (8 marks)
- (b) Drawing illustrations from the *Narrative of Fredrick Douglas*, elaborate:
- (i) Three themes (6 marks)
- (i) Three aspects of style (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Demonstrate the meaning of the term Harlem Renaissance. (3 marks)
- (b) How was the American Civil War significant to African-American literature? (10 marks)
- (c) Show how the African-American identity crisis contrasted with the values of white Americans? Illustrate using any two works covered in this course (7 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss the effectiveness of any three stylistic aspects employed by Martin Luther King in his speech *I Have a Dream* (6 marks)
- (b) Highlight four contributions of Malcom X in his pursuit of Black Power. (8 marks)
- (c) Garveyism or 'Back to Africa' slogan by Marcus Garvey had positive impacts on African American life. Justify this statement by highlighting three issues raised. (6 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Using either '*Go Tell it on the Mountain*' or *Blues for Mr. Charlie* by James Baldwin, explain four points to show the treatment of African American Christian Church. (8 marks)
- (b) White Supremacy was the force behind the activities of the infamous Ku Klux Klan. Highlight five reasons in support of their activities (5 Marks)
- (c) Briefly explain four major thematic concerns of the Harlem Renaissance poets using any two poems covered in this unit. (7 marks)