



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya

Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, + 254 (0) 712 524 293,

Website: info@must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

University Examinations 2024/2025

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

ELI 3300: SOUTH AFRICAN LITERATURE

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

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

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- (a) With relevant illustrations from at least two texts studied in class, explain how the apartheid policy has shaped content of South African literature. (10 marks)
- (b) Describe the role mining as a colonial economic activity has played to influence South African literature (10 marks)
- (c) Using illustrations from South African poetry, demonstrate the role culture has played to influence content. (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the use of political satire in Athol Fugard's **Sisiwe Banzi is Dead** (10 marks)
- b) Describe the use of symbolism in Peter Abraham's **Mine Boy** (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Examine any five themes addressed in The **Fog of the Season End** by Alex La Guma.
(20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Identify and describe any three thematic concerns addressed in Athol Fugard's **The blood Knot**

(12 marks)

How are gender roles portrayed in Fugard's plays?

(8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow.

“First Day After the War”

We heard singing coming from a wedding, and
noticed how gentle light bent its way around
fresh grass. We felt hesitant at first, but then we
noticed the footprints of a female figure. Her
face appeared before us with its joyful eyes,
which conveyed freedom. She woke us up,
smiling, and asked us: "What is this startling new
day?" We replied: "It's the first day of peace."

Then we all ran excitedly out into the open,
hollering through the mountainous landscape
and its paths, beckoning people from all around
the world. We pestered the old man to let us
have a festival, and asked for all the new season's
fruits. We held strangers' hands and called out
across waterfalls. People came from all over the
globe; it was the beginning of a peaceful new
era. Earlier generations appeared on the horizon,
walking tall and proud.

By Masizi Kunene

QUESTIONS.

1. Place the poem in its historic context

(3 marks)

2. Discuss any four themes addressed by the poet (12 marks)
3. Examine the poetic styles employed by the poet (5 marks)