



# **GRETSA UNIVERSITY - THIKA**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
JANUARY - APRIL 2025 SEMESTER**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**COURSE CODE: LITT 301**

**COURSE TITLE: EAST AFRICAN POETRY**

**DATE: 2025**

**TIME:**

---

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. SECTION A IS **COMPULSORY**.
2. SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER **TWO** QUESTIONS.
3. **DO NOT** WRITE ANYTHING ON THIS QUESTION PAPER AS IT WILL BE AN EXAM IRREGULARITY.
4. ALL ROUGH WORK SHOULD BE AT THE BACK OF YOUR ANSWER BOOKLET AND CROSSED OUT.

**CAUTION:** *All exam rooms are under CCTV surveillance during the examination period.*

## **SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

### **Question One**

- a) The meaning of a poem is in its unfolding. Explain the meaning of this statement. **[10 marks]**
- b) Describe the element of rhythm in poetry. **[10marks]**
- c) Explain the literary effect of situational irony in a poem. **[10marks]**

## **SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS**

### **Question Two**

- a) Outline five non-verbal cues in poetry. **[5 marks]**
- b) Identify and explain the mood of the persona in the poem, I Speak for the Bush, by Everret Standa. **[15 marks]**

### **Question three**

- a) Explain four poetic styles used in Building the Nation by Henry Barrow. **[6 marks]**
- b) Explain the ironical aspect in the poem, Building the Nation, by Henry Barrow. **[10 marks]**

### **Question Four**

- a) Differentiate between content and form in a poem. **[8 marks]**
- b) Discuss the theme in the poem The Song of the Common Man by Crispin Hauli. **[12 marks]**

### **Question five**

Explain the benefits a poet/poetess enjoys with the use of a persona in a poem. **[20 marks]**