


MARCH 2021  
EBS 121  
STUDIES IN AFRICAN POETRY  
2 HOURS

Candidate's Index Number: ABCE/JHS/20/0144
Signature: 

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STUDIES  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH  
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

COLLEGES OF EDUCATION  
FOUR-YEAR BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (B.ED)  
FIRST YEAR, END-OF-FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MARCH, 2021

MARCH 30, 2021                      STUDIES IN AFRICAN POETRY                      9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

This paper consists of two sections, A and B. Answer ALL the questions in Section A and TWO questions from Section B.

SECTION A  
[20 MARKS]

Answer ALL the questions in this Section.

1. State two features that distinguishes an African traditional poetry from African poetry. [2 marks]
2. "Fulani Creation Story," can be described as a ..... [1 mark]

Read the excerpt below and answer questions 3 – 5.

Is he not yet born?  
Is he in this town?  
Is he in his mother's womb?  
Is he a spirit?

("Sundjata")

3. What figure of speech is used in the above excerpt? [1 mark]
4. Explain the effect of the rhetorical questions in the excerpt above. [2 marks]
5. Write two literary effects of the above construction/structure. [2 marks]

Read the excerpt below to answer questions 6 – 7.

The sun slanting through cracks  
welcomes the owner  
("Western Civilization")

6. Identify **one** literary device used in the excerpt. [1 mark]
7. Explain the above as an enjambment. [2 marks]

**Read the excerpt to answer questions 8 – 9.**

O Sanya Babies' Home know their secrets,  
 At her gate children mew like cats early in the morning  
 They are wrapped in sacks and rags  
 (Tibenderana: "The Bastard")

8. In two sentences, explain the excerpt above. [2 marks]
9. What is the effect of the simile in line 2? [2 marks]

**Read the excerpt to answer questions 10 – 12.**

In the village  
 Screams of delighted children,  
 Toss and turn  
 In the din of the whirling wind,  
 Women,  
 Babies clinging on their backs  
 Dart about  
 In and out

10. What is the setting of the excerpt? [1 mark]
11. Describe the role of women in the excerpt. [2 marks]
12. What is the title of this poem from which the above extract is taken? [2marks]

**SECTION B**  
**[40 MARKS]**

**Answer TWO questions from this Section.**

1. Citing examples from **three** poems you have studied in this course, discuss **three** major thematic issues that make the poems African.
2. With reference to Tibenderana's "The Bastard", discuss **three** effects of rural-urban migration in post-colonial Africa.

*prohibition  
 irresponsible  
 parenting.  
 darkness  
 witness  
 death  
 poverty.*

3. Examine the literary approach the persona uses in narrating the creation story in "Fulani Creation Story" and its effect.
4. In the poem below, the persona recounts the role of Owusu in her life in "Owusu".
- Explain the role of Owusu in the persona's life.
  - Identify and discuss **three** dominant imagery used in describing Owusu.

Valiant Owusu,

The stranger on whom the citizen of the town depends,

Father, allow my children and me to depend on you

So that we may all of us get something to eat,

Father on whom I wholly depend.

When father sees me now, he will hardly recognize me.

He will meet me carrying an old torn mat and a horde of flies.

Father with whom I confer

My children and I will look to you.

Father on whom I wholly depend.

Killer of hunger,

My saviour,

Father the slender arm full of kindness

Father the rover whose footprints are on all paths. *Hyp*