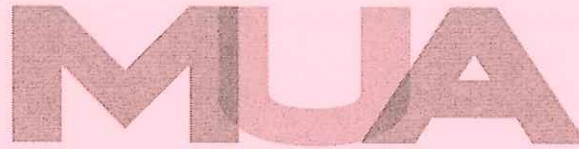


The
Management
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

LIT 113: LITERARY AESTHETICS

DATE: 31ST JULY 2023

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.

QUESTION ONE:

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Case Study

Philosophical study of the qualities that make something an object of aesthetic interest and of the nature of aesthetic value and judgement. It encompasses the philosophy of art, which is chiefly concerned with the nature and value of art and the principles by which it should be interpreted and evaluated. Three broad approaches to the subject have been taken, each distinguished by the types of questions it treats as foremost: (1) the study of aesthetic concepts, often specifically through the examination of uses of aesthetic language; (2) the study of the states of mind – responses, attitudes, emotions – held to be involved in the aesthetic experience; and (3) the study of objects deemed aesthetically interesting, with a view to determining what about them makes them so.

Aesthetics, also spelled esthetics, is the philosophical study of beauty and taste. It is closely related to the philosophy of art, which is concerned with the nature of art and the concepts in terms of which individual works of art are interpreted and evaluated.

To provide more than a general definition of the subject matter of aesthetics is immensely difficult. Indeed, it could be said that self-definition has been the major task of modern aesthetics. We are acquainted with an interesting and puzzling realm of experience: the realm of the beautiful, the ugly, the sublime, and the elegant; of taste, criticism, and fine art; and of contemplation, sensuous enjoyment, and charm. In all these phenomena we believe that similar principles are operative and that similar interests are engaged. If we are mistaken in this impression, we will have to dismiss such ideas as beauty and taste as having only peripheral philosophical interest. Alternatively, if our impression is correct and philosophy corroborates it, we will have discovered the basis for a philosophical aesthetics.

This article seeks to clarify the nature of modern aesthetics and to delineate its underlying principles and concerns. Although the article focuses on Western aesthetic thought and its development, it surveys some of the seminal features of Marxist and Eastern aesthetics.

Required:

- a) Explain briefly the meaning of aesthetics from this case study. *(10 marks)*
- b) Describe **three** approaches to aesthetics in the case study. *(9 marks)*
- c) Differentiate between “beautiful” and “ugly” aesthetics from the case study. *(6 marks)*

QUESTION TWO

- a) Compare and contrast the idea of literary imitation by Plato and Aristotle. *(10 marks)*
- b) Discuss the importance of language in literature. *(5 marks)*

QUESTION THREE

- a) “Literature appeals to human feelings”. Discuss. *(9 marks)*
- b) Explain the relationship between literature and morality. *(6 marks)*

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Using relevant examples explain the didactic nature of a work of art. *(6 marks)*
- b) Analyse the effects of media on society. *(9 marks)*

QUESTION FIVE

The Burdens by John Ruganda depicts the role of politics in society. Discuss.

(15 marks)

QUESTION SIX

Using texts studied in this course discuss the relationship between religion and literature.

(15 marks)