



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

**FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) AND
BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(MAIN CAMPUS & CITY CAMPUS)**

AEN 409: PRACTICAL ENGLISH STYLISTICS

Date: 24th March, 2014

Time: 11.15 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.



MASENO AND KISUMU CITY CAMPUSES
AEN 409: PRACTICAL ENGLISH STYLISTICS
INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND
ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

1. Read the following passage and provide a systematic analysis of the style of the text. Stress the most significant linguistic features of the style such as the sentence, the clause, the phrase, word, sentence linkage, punctuation and literary features. Comment on their overall effect on the reader (30 marks)

Which is worse, to have a son die away from home or to have or to have one die before one's very own eyes? Like her daughter before her, she was beyond tears, beyond action. She stood in that hut for two hours, not moving, not talking, as people milled around her, trying to comprehend the magnitude of her loss.

Nyabera was summoned immediately, dark as it was, to keep her mother company. She in her turn was not tongue tied this time round and she kept up a bemused, if angry soliloquy.

What has she ever done to deserve this? Does *Were* really exist? Why does he permit such a terrible to happen? Has never looked at anyone with an evil eye, never denied food to anyone; has she not been generous in sacrifice and libation? Does it not pay to lead an upright life? Why does *Were* give children only to strike them dead at the threshold of life? What has Mother ever done to deserve this. She looked at dead brother-still her baby brother in her mind. He had been chief for less than two years; had tried hard to live up to a duty he was never trained for. A good man, so like his father: steady, dependable, unassuming and always there.

They buried Ojwang' Sino with due honours and he rested with his ancestors, and for the first time in several generations, the chieftom descended on the shoulders of the younger son-Otieno Kembo as *C'hik* did not allow a baby to rule unless he was on the threshold of marriage. A chief had to have a wife and it would be many years before the happy toddler Owour, even understood the meaning of marriage

(From *The River and the Source* by Margaret Ogola, pg 64-5)

2. With appropriate illustrations, discuss the following notions of style
 - (a) Style as a set of individual linguistic characteristics
 - (b) Style as a collective set of linguistic characteristics.
 - (c) Style as deviation from the norm
3. In writing, the choices made by writers realize different styles. Identify and explain the various choices open to writers and how they influence style (20 marks)
4. Outline any FIVE factors that determine language variation (20 marks)
5. Discuss the relevance of context in stylistic analysis (20 marks)