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Autore	Nnolim Charles E
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Sommario/riassunto	The multitudinous nature of African literature has always been an issue but really not a problem, although its oral base has been used by expatriate critics to accuse African literature of thin plots, superficial characterisation, and narrative structures. African literature also, it is observed, is a mixed grill: it is oral; it is written in vernacular or tribal tongues; written in foreign tongues English, French, Portuguese and

within the foreign language in which it is written, pidgin and creole
further bend the already bent language giving African literature a
further taint of linguistic i
