

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2007

TITLE OF PAPER: MODERN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: AL101/AL-IDE 101

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE (1) QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.**
 - 2. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL IN YOUR ANSWERS.**
 - 3. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A SEPARATE SHEET.**
 - 4. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE ANSWER WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A: PROSE FICTION

QUESTION 1

MOFOLO, T:- CHAKA

Discuss Chaka as a study of passion and ambition which lead to the moral destruction of the hero.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 2

KANE, CHEIKH H. AMBIGUOUS ADVENTURE

“Learning is forgetting”. Discuss the extent to which this is brought out in the life and experiences of Samba Diallo.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 3

ACHEBE, C.:- THINGS FALL APART

Discuss the symbolic and the literal value of wealth in Umuofia.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 4

NDEBELE, N.:- FOOLS AND OTHER STORIES

Discuss “The Test” as an allegory.

[20 marks]

SECTION B: POETRY

QUESTION 5

p'BITEK, O. SONG OF LAWINO

In what ways and to what extent can we consider Song of Lawino as literature for the community?

[20 marks]

QUESTION 6

Discuss the underlying message in the poem and comment on the poet's attitude to its subject. [20 marks]

Holding my beads

Unforgiving as the course of justice
Inerasable as my scars and fate
I am here
A woman ... with all my lives
Strung out like beads

Before me
It isn't privilege or pity
That I seek

It isn't reverence or safety
Quick happiness of purity
But
The power to be what I am. a woman
Charting my own futures/a woman
Holding my beads in my hand

Grace Nichols (Guyana)

SECTION C

DRAMA

QUESTION 7

Ama Ata Aidoo: **The Dilemma of a Ghost**

Explain the importance of the first woman and the second woman and show how they contribute to the development of the play.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 8

Wole Soyinka: **The Trials of Brother Jero**

"In this play, much of the comedy arises from the discrepancy between what the audience knows Jero to be (from his own confession) and the character he pretends to be in the presence of his congregation." Discuss.

[20 marks]