

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FUCULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO POETRY AND DRAMA
COURSE CODE: AL 114/ IDE AL 114 SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER, 2014
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS: (1) ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.

(2) DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL IN YOUR ANSWERS.

(3) EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A FRESH SHEET.

(4) CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND GOOD ORGANIZATION OF CONTENT WILL COUNT IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER.

(5. QUESTION 5 IS COMPULSORY

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

SECTION A

POETRY

QUESTION 1

Critically analyze Chris Van Wyk's 'My Mother's Laughter' attached. 25 points

QUESTION 2

Read the untitled Sisana R. Dlamini poem.

- I. In addition to the surface meaning of agriculture, what two other levels of meaning does the agriculture image evoke? 4 points
- II. Use the poem to support each of the additional meanings of farming. 21 points

QUESTION 3

Spoken word poetry is by far superior to written poetry? Is this true? Why? 25 points

SECTION B

DRAMA

Note: Question five (5) in this section is compulsory.

QUESTION 4

"It is problematic to apply Joseph Campbell's monomyth on a mythological drama." Do you agree with this opinion? Support your view with at least one of the plays you have read this semester. 25 points

QUESTION 5

In your view how does the location of each play's climax contribute to the impact of the respective play? Use **two of the plays you have studied this semester to support your view. 25 points**

QUESTION 6

To what extent does imagery used in the plays you studied this semester highlight their thematic concerns? Your response should be based on at least **one of the plays we studied this semester.**

25 points

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My Mother's Laughter

When I think of my mother's laughter
and how it rang through my childhood
I search for a way to bring it to you
and the nearest analogy
of those sounds that slaughtered the sadness
is this:

When I loosened the string
that choked
my bag of marbles
and threw them onto the earth
they captured the sun in their prisms
even as they ran free
and transformed
their little windows of light
into coins that I squandered on joy
with all my friends

On Sundays my mother's laughter
swept the sombre crosses off
the shoulders of the churchgoers
flung us into the streets
with our white shirts
pockmarked with the talismans
of tomato sauce
and the brooches of beetroot

My mother's sheer laughter
filled the afternoon cheering
football fields
flew through the nets
of the goalposts
and the bags of the whistling
orange vendors

Throughout her life
my mother laughed
as she still does today
and even though there
was much to cry about
as there is even now
so seldom does she weep
that I am forced to put her tears
in parentheses

My mother's laughter grows
out of our house
and people come
to taste it
Citrus mirth
Deciduous pleasure
Evergreen

My mother's laughter runs in the family.

Kubhalwa siSwati

Letfwese kuNgwane lomuhle,
Letfwese kuNgwane longatsintfwa,
Letfwesa wavuka wagwacatela,
Lusiba lwagijima ensimini lemhlophe,
Lwalima lwalala emnyeleni,
Lwalima lwalala kwasala inhlanyelo.

Inhlanyelo yinyenti ayinakuphela,
Bahlanyeli bavuke tinhlanya,
Bahlanyela busuku nemini,
Bahlanyelela netebekuhamba tisu,
Bebalele butfongo bangaboni,
Balimi abacedzi ngemndlandla.

Tivutsiwe tibhuluja kwadliwa,
INGCAMU yavela baba'mbimilomo,
Ingcamu yesive sonkhana,
Endleleni sive sitawudla,
Sanchinyela sive sisahamba,
Ayicedvwa shiyela labanye.

UMNTJINGO ukhale wabavusa,
Wakhala kwetfuka lobekalele,
Watsatsa likhuba wangena,
Ensimini naye walima,
Lamuhla sitsi IDUBUKELE,
Wota nawe ungesabi,
Nalo lifutfo lasekwindla.

NakuNowa kwaba ngulesi,
Linyenti ngekunganaki lasala,
Akukhetfwa nkhobe endlutjini,
Longaphandle akavinjelwa, ngena,
Lilima leNkhosi leli ngena,
Isalinywa lensimu ayipheli.