

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER, MAY 2016

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL LITERATURE/ORAL LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: AL 113 (for IDE students)

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS
- (2) YOU DO NOT EARN CREDIT IF YOU UTILIZE ONE ORAL PIECE ON MORE THAN ONE QUESTION
- (3) COMMENCE EACH QUESTION ON A NEW SHEET
- (4) CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION OF RESPONSE CONTENT WILL COUNT IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER
- (5) EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 33 MARKS

QUESTION 1

Discuss the didactic role that orality plays in Swazi society.

QUESTION 2

Orality is often described as the soul or the mirror of a society. Explain what these descriptions mean with the aid of at least one narrative of your choice.

QUESTION 3

Explain what riddles are and their features. Why are riddles valuable to both children and adults?

QUESTION 4

Discuss the dramatic elements of *umhlanga* reed dance.

QUESTION 5

Describe the changing role of oral literature in Swaziland

QUESTION 6

“The label, praise poetry or tibongo, especially that celebrating illustrious individuals, can mislead a foreigner into thinking that this poetry is devoted to extolling the virtues of someone.” To what extent do you agree with this view? Support your response with two or three praise poetry pieces of your choice.