

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES
AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LITERATURE:
TRADITIONAL/ORAL AND MODERN LITERATURE IN
SISWATI

CODE OF PAPER : AL102/IDE-AL102 (S)

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, AT
LEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION.
 2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON
A SEPARATE PAGE.
 3. 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**TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE (AN INTRODUCTION)****QUESTION 1**

Ngiva cim'! cim'! emnyango
 Ngits' indvodza yam' iyefika
 Kants' ngucham' uyatelula

I hear thump! thump! at the door
 I think here my husband arriving
 Yet only an iguana stretching itself

Give a critical appreciation of the above piece, paying attention to the diction and the cultural values that define the piece as a "lament".

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2

An authentic SiSwati riddle is given below showing a structure that is of great literary value. Also given is the recent type of riddle commonly found in Swazi infant schools today.

Explain where the "literary" element lies in the "authentic" riddle, and also show how/where the recent riddle fails to meet the literary standards.

Authentic SiSwati Riddle: I riddle you with my women who are wearing long white dresses and black (sometimes red) head scarves. **ANSWER**: Fire matches.

Recent Riddle: I riddle you with my ten birds up a tree. I shoot one dead. How many birds remain on the tree?

Answer: None.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 3

What do you understand by the expression, "a participating audience" in the story-telling tradition? Give a detailed answer.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 4

With adequate illustrations, (at least four examples), discuss how SiSwati proverbs/idioms can provide the student of human nature a peep into the mind and character of Swazi society.

[25 marks]

SECTION B**MODERN LITERATURE IN SISWATI: AN INTRODUCTION****QUESTION 5: THE NOVEL**

Salayedvwa M. Magagula, **BUNGANI BEBANGANI**

Discuss the characterisation of Sipiwe, stating in what ways the author strives to make her a “round” character instead of a “flat” one.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6: DRAMA

Salayedvwa M. Magagula, **LILUNGELO LAKHE**

The title of this play is ambiguous in that, the question of “rights” (emaLungelo) can be applied to both Nikiwe the modern woman, and the traditionalists represented by Mshiyeni Mbhamali her father-in-law. Carefully outline those events in the play where the author seems to favour traditions, though Nikiwe wins.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 7: POETRY

N.D. Ntiwane, G.N. Mamba, P.N. Dlamini, **TAKITSI**

Choose one poem from the anthology and write a critical appreciation of it in terms of language usage.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 8: THE SHORT STORY

S.Z. Simelane (ed.), **EMAGAMA EKUTJELWA**

Discuss the short story “Ngitfunywe Lidloti” as a scathing attack on witchcraft.

[25 marks]