

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2005

- TITLE OF PAPER** : **MODERN LITERATURE II**
- COURSE CODE** : **AL 302/IDE-AL302**
- TIME ALLOWED** : **THREE (3) 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**OYONO, F.:- HOUSEBOY

Commenting on the behaviour of Toundi in the novel, Lenye Mtsethwa concluded that his actions evoke sadness which is a result of his misunderstandings of the colonial world. Do you agree? Discuss. [20 marks]

QUESTION 2ACHEBE, C.:- ANTHILLS OF THE SAVANNAH

Discuss the ways in which passion is a force for change in Kangan. [20 marks]

QUESTION 3BETI, M.:- MISSION TO KALA

“The tragedy which our nation is suffering today is that of a man left to his own devices in a world which does not belong to him, which he has not made and not understand.” Discuss with reference to the situation of Medza in the novel. [20 marks]

QUESTION 4ARMAH, A.K.:- FRAGMENTS

Discuss in detail with specific reference to the text the forces which drive Baako to the mental asylum. [20 marks]

QUESTION 5LA GUMA, A.:- IN THE FOG OF THE SEASONS' END

Evaluate the roles of Beatie Adams, Tommy and Beukes in the struggle. [20 marks]

SECTION B**POETRY****QUESTION 6**

Discuss the importance of ceremony in the process of incorporating the prodigal from exile in "Heavensgate."
[20 marks]

QUESTION 7

Comment on the loss of ideals and decline of moral standards among the elite in "Lost Friends".
The poem is provided below. [20 marks]

Lost Friends - LENRIE PETERS

They are imprisoned
In dark suits and air-conditioned offices
Alsations ready at the door
On the saliva carpeted floor

They spend their nights
In jet airlines -
Would change them in mid-air
To show how much they dare

Drunk from the vertigo
Of never catching their tails
They never seem to know
When not to bite their nails

Their new addiction
Fortifies their livers
They are getting there
While the going's good
They have no time for dreamers

SECTION C: DRAMA**QUESTION 8**

What is Athol Fugard's major aim in writing his anti-apartheid plays? What are the messages sent out through *The Island* and who are these messages meant for?

[20 marks]

QUESTION 9

What is a historical play, and of what import is it to society? How have Ngugi and Mugo treated history in *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi*, and for what purpose?

[20 marks]

QUESTION 10

Post-colonial Africa has been plagued by political dictatorship in various forms. Describe how post-colonial African drama has responded to this trend. Use *A Play of Giants* as your reference point.

[20 marks]

QUESTION 11

Describe the various steps involved in play production. Use your experience of the class production to illustrate your answer.

[20 marks]