

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES
AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE I AND MODERN LITERATURE IN SISWATI I

CODE OF PAPER : AL203/IDE-AL203 (M)

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS IN ALL, CHOOSING ONE 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 I: (POETRY)****QUESTION 1**

Analyse the lullaby “Kopoy” below in terms of its content and theme, clearly stating the ways in which the content is made to appear as a “prescription” for the socialisation of women in traditional Swazi society. [25 marks]

5 Kopoy, Kopoy, yeKopoy
 Unyok' uyephi, yeKopoy
 Uyekujuma, yeKopoy
 Emajaheni, yeKopoy
 Wabuya nesisu, yeKopoy
 Watal' umntfwana, yeKopoy
 Wambek' etjeni yeKopoy
 Wadliwa timphetfu, ye Kopoy

5 Kopoy, Kopoy, hey Kopoy
 Where did your mother go, hey Kopoy
 She went on amorous visits, hey Kopoy
 Visits at young men's quarters, hey Kopoy
 Came back with bulging stomach, hey Kopoy
 And gave birth to a baby, hey Kopoy
 And placed it on a rock, hey Kopoy
 And it was eaten by maggots, hey Kopoy

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2

Articulate the religious nature of the relationship between the persona and the addressee in the “Praises of a Sorcerer's Baboon” quoted below, also spelling out the context of performance of the piece.

Sesiyowuzwa ngawe
 Lapho siya khona
 Ngisho emaweni
 Gududu! Gududu! Gududu!

So we shall await your word
 Saying where we are going

Even in deep ravines
 Gallop! Gallop! Gallop!

[25 marks]

QUESTION 3

Discuss heroic imagery as evidenced in the “Nsibandze” sinanatelo quoted below.

NSIBANDZE CLAN PRAISES

Nsibandze
Goje
Mdlanyoka
Phangela khulu
5 Mzenge loncama
Netitfo takhe

Long feather
Swallower in whole
Snake eater
Great go-getter
5 Thin slender one
Legs also so thin

[25 marks]

QUESTION 4

Discuss the referents of the praise in the Lindimpi “War Cry,” alias “Praises,” of the regiment quoted below.

SIBITELO SALINDIMPI

Iyawub’ iyadl’ ivuthile
Nakhona kungenamlilo
Bomakhonza ngenjobo
Kuvakel’ emaheleni
5 Bomgamfimfi
Bonsiba zegwalagwala
Tatingahlonywa ngemankengane
Tatihlonywa ngitsi
Tsine bo gqum! falakahlane
10 Bondvuku zephukile
Tingqulungqulu letinhle
Ngekunats’ emant’ eMdzimba
Lilanga ‘be lingakaphumi
Mshosha phansi nangezandla nangezinyawo

- 15 Naguca phansi ngelidvolo
Yaphakam' inhlambelo
Navuma ngenkwela lisibekele
Laqhamuka lilanga
Nayitsats' inselo yelihhashi
- 20 Nayifaka ngalunye lunyawo
Natsi nase ningesheya
Yas' iyanihlambisa.
Ase nidvumel' umganga
Nishiye lulwini Lindimpi
- 25 Hha yi inzo ndvo!
Iluhlat' inyoni maja
Klobho!
Ezintabeni boQili
Zintaba!

[25 marks]

SECTION B**MODERN LITERATURE IN SISWATI I****QUESTION 5: THE NOVEL**E.A.B. Mkhonta, **Ubolibamba Lingashoni**

“The setting of this novel seems to be in disharmony with the theme.” Comment on this view showing full appreciation of the characterisation of Tobhini the main character.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6: POETRYN.D. Ntiwane, G.N. Mamba, P.N. Dlamini, **Takitsi**

Discuss the various techniques employed to highlight the concept of “praise” in the poem entitled “Professor S.M. Guma” by G.N. mamba, where the Professor is hailed as the founder of the University of Swaziland.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 7: DRAMA

Salayedvwa M. Magagula, **Tentile**

“In this drama, the community and its traditional value system seem to be the protagonist.”
Support or refute this statement with reference to Magagula’s play, Tentile.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 8: THE SHORT STORY

Zodwa Motsa (ed.), **Takitsi**

“Lendlela labangemukele ngayo angiyitsandzi mpela mpela. Bekufanele ngitsi ngichamuka nje ngibakhandze sebashaye lihele ngalapha nangalapha kwemgwaco bashaye isaluthi Ngabe ngingubani kantsi nine? Khuluma Siseko!”

(From “Babi Labantfu” by Thoko E. Mgabhi)

Discuss how the technique of “caricature” has been effectively used to achieve the theme of the story.

[25 marks]