

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2007**

**TITLE OF PAPER:           MODERN LITERATURE**

**COURSE CODE:           AL101/AL-IDE 101**

**TIME ALLOWED:         TWO (2) 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**

**NDEBELE, N:- FOOLS AND OTHER STORIES**

Discuss the ways and the extent to which the characters in "Fools" can be considered as men and women adrift.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 2**

**MOFOLO, T.: CHAKA**

Discuss the view that Chaka is not driven by fate but by his own resolve.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

**ACHEBE, C.:- THINGS FALL APART**

Things Fall Apart is a swan song of a proud warrior society. Discuss.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

**KANE, CHEIKH H:- AMBIGUOUS ADVENTURE**

What does it mean to say the characters in this novel are types. Discuss with reference to the text.

[20 marks]

**SECTION B: POETRY**

**QUESTION 5**

**Song of Lawino**

Discuss how the metaphors and similes of human waste depict the poet's repudiation of borrowed lifestyles.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 6**

“Song of Lawino is a heated debate over the future of Africa”. Discuss.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 7**

Discuss the central message of this poem and comment on the poet’s attitude to its subject.

[20 marks]

**A baby is a European**

A baby is a European  
He does not eat our food:  
He drinks from his own water pot.

A baby is a European  
He does not speak our tongue:  
He is cross when the mother understands him not.

A baby is a European  
He cares very little for others:  
He forces his will upon his parents.

A baby is a European  
He is always sensitive  
The slightest scratch on his skin results in an ulcer.

**SECTION C**

**DRAMA**

**QUESTION 8**

**Wole Soyinka: The Trials of Brother Jero**

How did Soyinka present the theme of religious hypocrisy in this play? [20 marks]

**QUESTION 9**

**Ama ata Aidoo: The Dilemma of a Ghost**

“Ato lives in two worlds – the African and the western – and adopts the idiosyncracies of the world that suits his needs at a particular moment.” Substantiate. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 10**

**Ola Rotimi: The Gods are not to Blame**

How did Rotimi employ the African motifs and oral tradition to transform a foreign play to an African setting?

[20 marks]