

Course Code: AL403/IDE-AL403(M) 2007

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

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

CODE OF PAPER : AL403/IDE-AL403 (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 III
(THE SUNJATA EPIC; PRAISES OF SWAZI KINGS)

QUESTION 1

Discuss four motifs that constitute the story of Sunjata, which can also be found in oral literatures of diverse cultures which include the Swazi inganekwane - folktale.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 2

Identify the types of “eulogues” used in the following passages taken from the praises of King Sobhuza II (1921-1982), while the last passage is taken from the praises of King Sobhuza I also known as King Somhlolo father of Mswati II (1815-1836).

Further, explain instances of “allusion” where applicable, and the poet’s attitude towards the subject of the praise in each case.

- (a) Lijikijela lakitsi lelimkhon’ umazima
 Lijikijele laye lashaya phesheya kwesibubulundu
 Kwaye kwamazam’ ukhingi phesheya. [9 marks]
- (b) Inkonyane kaBaba kaMahlokohla
 Yayihamba nohlwayi emlenzeni [5 marks]
- (c) Ilengelage lingamehlw’ entethe
 Amehlw’enteth’ ayangijabulisa
 Wona ngoba asemhlabulweni [6 marks]
- (d) USobhuza ngimfanisa netje lisemanzini
 Lona lingezwa’ qhwa lingezwa langa. [5 marks]

QUESTION 3

Comment on **imagery** and the poet’s attitude to his subject, as shown in the praises of King Mahlokohla also called Ngwane V, father of Sobhuza II. Your discussion should also attempt to prove the theory that, “The **praises** of the Kings are not so much about the edification of these figures as individuals, but rather the poetry constitutes an **appraisal** of the King’s reign.”

Kungabe wena Ngwane laph’ etindleleni
 Bengingakufanisa nalenjani?
 Bengingakufanisa nalevundlako.

- 5 Kungabe wena Ngwane laph' etinkhomeni
Beningakufanisa nani?
Beningakufanisa nenshivazana
Kutsi Ngwane laph'emantini
Beningakufanisa nani?
Beningakufanisa nesitiba lesiluhlat'injojololo.
- 10 Kutsi Ngwan'etinyamataneni - ke?
Ngikufanise nalenjani?
Beningakufanisa nemsumphekazana
Lowawufohl' emahlatsini kubomangulube

[25 marks]

SECTION B

MODERN LITERATURE IN SISWATI III

QUESTION 4: THE NOVEL

Thoko E. Mgabhi, **Nalu Lubhambo Lwani**

Discuss the portrayal of women in this novel. Clearly articulating your assessment of the manner in which these characters have been handled.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 5: THE SHORT STORY

Zodwa Motsa (ed.), **Khulumani Sive**

Write a critique of the story "Luswayi Lwemhlaba" - "The Salt of the Earth" by Eric Sibanda pointing out how the technique of "flashbacks" has been used with great success to support the theme of "The Value of Education".

[25 marks]

QUESTION 6: DRAMA

Lucy Zodwa Dlamini, **Kuba Njalo Nje**

"Great astuteness is shown in the resolution of the conflict of this play, as the well known polarities of Christianity and traditional African religions are reconciled."

Give a discussion showing how the conflict is structured in Dlamini's play.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 8: POETRY

Clara Tsabedze (ed.), **Liphimbo Lembongi**

Discuss the portrayal of the theme of “Mgico Mgico” in the poem of that title by Salayedvwa Modison Magagula. For your convenience, the poem is provided here below. Your discussion should particularly reflect a detailed analysis of stanza 2 of the poem.

Mgico Mgico

Labantfwana bayatidlalela bajabulile
Ngumgico mgico bakhululekile.
Bayabambana, Longephansi longetulu,
Tinyawo tizul'emoyeni bawe babhek'etulu.
Emaphinjan'ahlek'aphindz'akhale
Abindziswe ngunina ngeliv'avakale
Abadvudvuta beta bagijima.
Mgico mgico bantfwana kini ngumdlalo

Mgico mgico kimi bantfwan'akusimdlalo
Ngiwa ngivuka ngihambe kumetima,
Ngingenataba kunginika kusima,
Ngitikhandleka ngiphendl'indlela,
Kube melula kini senitidlalela
Ngamgico mgico longesimatima

Salayedvwa Modison Magagula

[25 marks]