

AL 102 / IDE AL 102

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION -MAY 2009

**TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL/ORAL
LITERATURE**

COURSE CODE : AL 102 / IDE-AL 102

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING
AT LEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION**
 - 2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A
SEPARATE PAGE.**
 - 3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING
ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE
EXAMINATION HALL**
 - 4. IN THE ASSESMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT
USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF
EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF
ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUT**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

INTRODUCTION TRADITIONAL / ORAL LITERATURE

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING ATLEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION

SECTION A: SOURCES AND ORIGINS OF AFRICAN ORAL LITERATURE

1. Discuss how the pattern of African universe has affected the production of Oral Literature in Africa. (20 Marks)
2. What are the main distinctive features between Oral and Written Literature? (20 Marks)
3. How has the communal nature of the Swazi traditional society affected the production of Oral Literature in Swaziland? (20 Marks)

SECTION B: FIELD WORK AND FORMS OF ORAL LITERATURE.

4. Describe the techniques which an Oral Literature researcher may use when collecting Swazi proverbs. (20 Marks)
5. Discuss three major changes which Oral Literature material must undergo if it has to be available to a wider audience, outside the community from which the Oral Literature emanates. (20 Marks)
6. Define and illustrate with clear examples, the following forms of Oral Literature in siSwati.
 - a. Proverbs (5Marks)
 - b. Dirges (5 Marks)
 - c. Incantations (5Marks)
 - d. Riddles. (5Marks)

7. Give a critical appreciation of the piece below, paying particular attention to the diction and cultural values that define the piece as a “Dirge”

Ngiva cim'! cim'! emnyango
Ngits' indvodza yam' iyeifika
Kants' ngucham' uyatetula

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