

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION 2010/2011

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO POETRY & DRAMA
COURSE CODE: AL 114/IDE AL 114
TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS, AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH SECTION. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 20 MARKS.
2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A SEPARATE SHEET.
3. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE SAME TEXT AT LENGTH MORE THAN ONCE.
4. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIALS INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL.
5. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

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

SECTION A

Question 1

What is Social Drama? Discuss Victor Turner's social drama theory and provide the Social Drama Checklist.

Question 2

Discuss the various factors that aided the Development of Modern African theatre and Rise of African Theatre Companies.

SECTION B

DRAMA

Ama Ata Aidoo: *Dilemma of a Ghost*

Question 3

Discuss the historical context within which *Dilemma of a Ghost* was written. What are the themes discussed in the play? Also, discuss the use of symbolism in the play.

Wole Soyinka: *The Trials of Brother Jero* and *Jero's Metamorphosis*.

Question 4

Explain the meaning of this quotation by Karl Marx "Religion is the opium of the people". Discuss this in relation to the themes and characterization in *The Trials of Brother Jero* and *Jero's Metamorphosis*.

Ola Rotimi: *The Gods are not to Blame*

Question 4

How do **Class Consciousness** and **Xenophobia** contribute to the tragedy in *The Gods are not to Blame*? Discuss the use of proverbs in the illustration of the attendant conflicts.

SECTION C

Poetry

Okot p'Bitek: *Song of Lawino* and *Song of Ocol*

Question 5

Compare the images of traditional African womanhood as portrayed through Lawino and modernized womanhood as portrayed through Clementina. Discuss the poetic devices used by the poet in accomplishing the comparison.

Senanu, K. E., & Vincent, T.: *A Selection of African Poetry*

Question 6

"Elmi Bondheri's love poetry is tender, melancholy and passionate". Discuss this comment in relation to the poem, "As Camel who have become thirsty", and the life of the poet. Does the poem have any resonance for present-day Somalia?