

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

TITLE OF PAPER: CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN FICTION AND NON-FICTION
COURSE CODE: AL 212/IDE AL 212
TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS, 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
FICTION - NOVEL**

QUESTION 1

Chinua Achebe: *Arrow of God*

What is sociological criticism? "*Arrow of God* is sociological in emphasis". Discuss this statement.

QUESTION 2

Mongo Beti: *The Poor Christ of Bomba*

"*The Poor Christ of Bomba* is a satirical rendition of the colonial experience in Africa". Discuss this statement.

QUESTION 3

Ngugi Wa Thiong'o: *A Grain of Wheat*

Identify what you interpret to be major themes of *A Grain of Wheat*.

SECTION B

PROSE – SHORT STORIES

QUESTION 4

Bessie Head: *The Collector of Treasures*

Discuss "Snapshots of a Wedding" as a love story. Make sure you differentiate between genuine feelings of love and publicised postures.

QUESTION 5

Discuss the images of:

- a. Women
- b. The government

as presented in "Looking for a rain god"?

SECTION C
PROSE NON-FICTION

QUESTION 6

Omafume Onoge: "The Crisis of Consciousness in Modern African Literature: A Survey"

What do you consider to be the most important issues discussed by Omafume Onoge in his article titled "The Crisis of Consciousness in Modern African Literature: A Survey".

QUESTION 7

Discuss the theory of New Historicism in relation to Bessie Head's *A Woman Alone*.