

AL 214 / IDE AL 214

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION- JULY 2011

TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE 1

COURSE CODE : AL 214 / IDE-AL 214

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) 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 ACCOUNT**

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

TRADITIONAL/ ORAL LITERATURE 1

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

SECTION A: ESSAY QUESTIONS ON ORAL POETRY

1. "Topical songs have, for their aims, the maintenance of social justice and customs in the community where they are sung". Discuss this statement in the light of Swazi topical poetry. (20 marks).

2. What is religious poetry? (5 marks).
Discuss with apt examples, the different categories of religious poetry in Swaziland (15 marks).

3. Define the following forms of oral poetry
 - a. Dirge (5 marks).
 - b. Occupational poetry (5 marks).
 - c. Epic poetry (5 marks).
 - d. Lullabies (5 marks).

SECTION B: ANALYSIS OF ORAL POEMS

4. Discuss the "poet-versus- the enemy motif" as well as the use of images and symbols in the incantation below:

When the dyer prepares the dye
Her hands first gets dyed.
When the camwood owner prepares camwood
The camwood first dresses her hands.
"Elulu" that invited the rain
It invites it on its own head.

Whether it is men or women that think evil against me,
Let the evil fall on them (20 marks).

5. Discuss the prevalence of “images of beauty” in tinanatelo, citing the “Shabangu”, “Mkhonta”, “Mnisi” and “Motsa” clan praises as examples, concentrating on the few lines provided under each surname below. Also state what is praised through these images.

a. Shabangu

Mbhele

Loluhlata njengencoshane

b. Mkhonta

Mhlungwane

Loluhlata njengencoshane

c. Mnisi

Mvulane

Mdlalose

Wena lowadlala indlala Kanye

Ingabe Kusasa utawudlalani (20 marks).