

AL 302/IDE AL 302

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

COURSE NAME: MODERN LITERATURE II

COURSE CODE: AL 302 / IDE AL 302

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER ANY 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 MATERIAL 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
PROSE

QUESTION 1

Chinua Achebe: No Longer at Ease

The President said it was a thing of shame for a man in the senior service to go to prison for twenty pounds... ‘I am against people reaping where they have not sown. But we have a saying that if you want to eat a toad you should look for a fat and juicy one.’

Discuss the theme of corruption as portrayed in Achebe’s novel in the light of the quotation above.

QUESTION 2

Tsitsi Dangarembga: Nervous Conditions

“Nyasha is a product of two worlds and grows increasingly confused of her identity and the hybrid influences of life in England and Rhodesia.” Substantiate with relevant textual illustrations.

QUESTION 3

Steve Chimombo: “The Rubbish Dump”

What are the factors that help the Old Man who collects garbage, and the Young Boy, who lives with his affluent parents, to create a friendly bond between them in Chimombo’s short story?

Or

Grace Ogot: “The Rain Came”

How does Ogot create a balance between the two different belief systems, supernaturalism and humanism, in her short story, “The Rain Came”?

SECTION- B
POETRY

QUESTION 4

Gabriel Okara: "Piano and Drums"

"And I lost in the morning mist
of an age at a riverside keep
wandering in the mystic rhythm
of jungle drums and the concerto."

What is the significance of these lines and how do they relate to the theme of the poem?

QUESTION 5

Abioseh Nicol: "The Meaning of Africa"

Compare and contrast the sections of the poem that deal with the vision and reality of Africa, pointing to some of the elements that establish the contrast.

QUESTION 6

Antonio Jacinto: "Love Poem"

How do the images of aspiration drawn from nature's ability for renewal help in projecting the struggle against oppression in Jacinto's "Love Poem"?

SECTION – C
DRAMA

QUESTION 7

Zakes Mda: And the Girls' in their Sunday Dresses

Compare and contrast the character traits of The Woman and The Lady in Mda's play.

QUESTION 8

Wole Soyinka: Kongi's Harvest

Discuss the three images from the opening section (Hemlock) and show how these images summarize the play's themes.

QUESTION 9

Athol Fugard, John Kani and Winston Ntshona: The Island

“The play, The Island is an act of open defiance, an assertion of human dignity and an unequivocal affirmation of the inherent nobility of humanity.” Discuss the survival techniques used by John and Winston to keep their humanity and sanity intact in a hostile environment.