

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2011/2012**

COURSE NAME: ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN POETRY AND DRAMA

COURSE CODE: AL 314 / IDE AL 314

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS. CHOOSE AT LEAST ONE QUESTION 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
POETRY

QUESTION 1

How does Agostinho Neto present the dreams, actions, sacrifices and attitudes of the people of Angola in relation to their struggle for independence from colonial rule, in his poem, “Hoisting the flag”?

QUESTION 2

In his poem, “Piano and Drums,” Gabriel Okara’s voice is the voice of the lonely African and from the perspective of the lonely African, he explores the historical relationship of the two worlds: African and Western. Discuss.

QUESTION 3

For Abioseh Nicol, Africa belongs to the one who tills and harvests a piece of plot in his native country but for Syl Cheney-Coker, Africa is the civilization that will flower when the entire continent has been freed from “the yoke of its ferocious subjugation.” Discuss this statement with close reference to Nicol’s poem, “The Meaning of Africa” and Cheney-Coker’s “Freetown.”

SECTION – B
DRAMA

QUESTION 4

Athol Fugard: The Island

“In Fugard’s play, acting becomes both a shield and sword to the two prisoners: a means for self-protection, for protection of the Self and a means for taking action.” Substantiate with relevant textual illustrations.

QUESTION 5

Wole Soyinka: Kongi’s Harvest

“Soyinka’s play represents the clash between the life-giving forces and death-producing forces.” Do you agree?

QUESTION 6

Zakes Mda: And the Girls’ in their Sunday Dresses

How does Mda emphasize social resolutions that link the subordination of women with broader political and economic contradictions in his play?