

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION-MAY 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE 111

COURSE CODE : AL 403 / IDE-AL 403

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 111

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

SECTION A: MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Question 1

- a. Define myth. (5marks)
- b. With relevant examples, discuss four categories of myths basing your arguments on their thematic classification. (15 marks)

Question 2

- a. What is a legend? (5 marks)
- b. What are the main differences between a historic legend and a mythic legend? (15 marks)

Question 3

Discuss the relationship between myth, literature and culture. (20 marks)

Question 4

Illustrate with clear examples, the following categories of legends in Africa:

- Supernatural legends (5 marks)
- Personal legends (5 marks)
- Local legends (5 marks)
- Epic legends (5marks).

SECTION B: WOMEN AND ORAL LITERATURE

Question 5

With apt examples drawn from different forms of oral literature and from different cultures in Africa, critically examine the role of women in African oral literature.

Question 6

With relevant examples, discuss the portrayal of girls, wives and mothers in Swazi oral literature.

Question 7

What are the similarities and differences between “Feminism” and “Womanism” in African context? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples in African literature.