

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN PAPER EXAMINATION MAY 2012/2013

TITLE OF PAPER: CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN POETRY AND DRAMA

COURSE CODE: AL 213/IDE AL 213

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS, ENSURING YOU DO NOT ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS ON A SINGLE TEXT. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.
2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A FRESH SHEET.
3. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE SAME TEXT AT LENGTH MORE THAN ONCE.
4. DO NOT BRING ANY READING MATERIAL IN TO THE EXAMINATION HALL.
5. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND OVERALL GOOD USE OF ENGLISH EARNS MARKS.

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

SECTION A

POETRY

Question 1

"It's easy to come up with poetry. Once you have your thoughts or ideas down on paper in the form of prose, all you do is reorganize everything so it is some four to say seven words per line. And that way you have poetry." How far do you agree with this view? Support your stand with examples from poems of your choice. It is perfectly acceptable to make poetic lines yourself in support of your answer.

Question 2

What are the features of negritude poetry? Support your answer with suitable examples,

Question 3

"You don't need stage directions and props for setting on stage; but it's ok to have them." Do you agree with this view? What is the value of stage directions and stage props?

SECTION B

DRAMA

Question 4

"The Elesin's resolve to go through with the ritual suicide is compromised less by Simon Pilkings' intrusion than it is by private distractions within the Elesin." Respond to this view.

Question 5

Describe the roles of Iyalaja and the Praise Singer in Soyinka's depiction of the Elesin.

Question 6

Compare and contrast the themes of waiting in Zakes Mda's *And the Girls in Their Sunday Dresses* and *Joys of War*.

END