

AL 214 / IDE AL 214

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION-MAY 2013**

**TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE 1**

**COURSE CODE : AL 214 / IDE-AL 214**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER QUESTION ONE, AND TWO OTHER QUESTIONS. IN ALL, ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS**
  - 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.**

**INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER QUESTION ONE, AND TWO OTHER QUESTIONS.  
IN ALL, ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION ONE**

Analyse the following extract quoted from the praises of King Dlamini 111 according to the Imbongi Maboya Fukudze, clearly articulating the referents of the praise where this King is portrayed as an illustrious hero, and also pointing out instances of allusion to historical incidents:

*Msala yedvwa kaHlathikhulu  
Owathelekelwa ngabomlandu  
Ba Nguni bakuthelekela ngezikhali  
Bebafuna lizulu*

*Mlawulela sizwe sakho ngendlela  
Ngekuncabela izizwe zikuhlasela  
Kulase Mzimbayaneni*

*Longaweli etubukweni lelishonako  
Uwela ngelenhlabatsi  
Umthelethile Ngwane  
Wamnika Ngwane indvuku  
Wachubeka nesiswe semaLangeni. (20 Marks)*

**QUESTION TWO**

Traditional African thought accepts that there is a line between the realms of the living and the dead. Discuss one Swazi traditional prayer and a dirge which contain elements of this belief. (20 marks)

**QUESTION THREE**

- a. What is religious poetry? (5 marks)
- b. Discuss with apt examples, the different forms of religious poetry in Swaziland. (15 mark)

#### **QUESTION FOUR**

Discuss **two** (2) examples of **tinanatelo** where the societal value of “heroism” is praised, clearly articulating that, what is at the centre of your quoted lines is, indeed, **admirable**. (20 marks)

#### **QUESTION FIVE**

Lullabies are meant for children’s development and acquisition of the traditional Swazi oral art. Discuss. (20 marks)

#### **QUESTION SIX**

“The poem or song is the lifeline of the Swazi; and he learns the art of poetry because he is born and bred in a society which recognizes that the poetic form is, emotionally, most expressive of the human predicament”. With relevant examples, discuss the above assertion in relation to Swazi oral poetry. (20 marks)