

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FUCULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, SECOND SEMESTER 2014

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO POETRY AND DRAMA

COURSE CODE: AL 114/ IDE AL 114 MAIN PAPER

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: (1) ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.

(2) DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL IN YOUR ANSWERS.

(3) EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A FRESH SHEET.

(4) CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND GOOD ORGANIZATION OF CONTENT WILL COUNT IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER.

(5) QUESTION 5 IS COMPULSORY

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

QUESTION 1

Critically analyze Lenrie Peters poem, 'Isatou Died' attached. 25 points

QUESTION 2

Read the excerpted poem titled 'uBathandekile.'

I. Explain these clauses: (a) 'uyizwe ngothi lwayo' (b) 'kubhakuza amaphaphu zibekwa' (c) 'lizwa ukuba ukhe mina' (d) 'kwanhlanga zimuka nomoya'

(e) 'ngahlala osibeni lwami.' 10 points

II. What evidence is there that this poetic narrative ends with disappointment for the narrator, and what elements does the poet employ to build up this sense of impending doom? 15 points

QUESTION 3

What three (3) poetic devices do you think contribute to a poem's power to deeply engage a reader, and why/how? Use poem's of your choice to support your answer. 25 points

SECTION B

DRAMA

Note: Question 5 is compulsory in this section.

QUESTION 4

Critics have found Joseph Campbell's concept of the monomyth helpful in analysing stories (prose or drama)? Use one play you have studied this semester as a basis for a discussion of the applicability of Joseph Campbell's monomyth. 25 points

QUESTION 5

How do the epithets used to describe Obatala and Menziwa in the two plays you have read this semester highlight the character or esteem in which the respective characters are held in their societies? Base your response on both texts you have studied this semester. 25 points

QUESTION 6

"The vagaries and caprices of rulers are no match against the single-minded determination of individuals." To what extent does this view support the thematic weight of one of the plays you read this semester? 25 points

GAMBIA

Isatou Died

Isatou died
When she was only five
And full of pride
Just before she knew
How small a loss
It brought to such a few.
Her mother wept
Half grateful
To be so early bereft.
And did not see the smile
As tender as the root
Of the emerging plant
Which sealed her eyes.
The neighbours wailed
As they were paid to do
And thought how big a spread
Might be her wedding too.
The father looked at her
Through marble eyes and said;
'Who spilt the perfume
Mixed with morning dew?'

UBATHANDEKILE

Yasho insizwa imi
 Osebeni lomfula duze
 Neminyezane lingamtsha wendoda,
 Yathi: "Mfana ngizwa
 Ngikuthanda, ngizokuxoxel' indaba
 Ungayibuzanga, ukuze mhla
 Wehlelwa ngefana nayo
 Ungagangadeki ngokwedlule uthi
 Umhlaba ukwahlule, akekho
 Osewake wabona okuyobe
 Kubonwe nguwe; kepha
 Udle imihlathi uyindoda
 Wazi ukuba baningi
 Abedlula kukho bakwehlula
 Lokho okobe sekukushikashika.

Ngizwe kahle ungaphuthi,
 Kangibhekisile inhliziyo emuva
 Ngibalisa ngosekwedlula:
 Kepha wena ngizokuqalela
 Indaba phansi uyizwe
 Ngothi lwayo, kusukela
 Mhla ngelamela uBathandekile
 Kubhakuza amaphaphu zibekwa;
 Ngambona maqedane ngamtusela
 Ekudeni ngamthanda kepha
 Ngabona ukuth' akafanele
 Mina; ngangingakaze ngimbone
 Onjeyana umuntu, osikhumba
 sasinjengogqumgqumu emento arana
 Nawengane, emzimba uyintebe.

Lapho sengigobe izinkophe
 Ekhaya yabuya imicabango,
 Yala ukhasha inhliziyo
 Yavukwa ngokwayo okudala,
 Yezwa yafisa ukuzigodlela
 Ngabayathe ngiyaqinisela ngiyachaza
 Ukuba izwe lingathini
 Lizwa ukuba ukhe mina,
 Kwanhlanga zimuka nomoya;
 Ngahlala-ke osibeni lwami,
 Ngatusa ubuhle bakhe
 Obungandile, ngaphetha ngakho
 Ukuzibika ngilahlela,
 Zabuya ziphika izimpendulo.