

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION  
APRIL 2014

**COURSE NAME: ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN POETRY AND DRAMA**

**COURSE CODE: AL 314 / IDE AL 314**

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

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS. CHOOSE QUESTIONS FROM BOTH SECTIONS. 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 ONE**

How does the poet Antonio Jacinto use pathetic fallacy in his poem, “Letter from a Contract worker” to evoke the feelings of romance, tenderness and admiration, even though the speaker cannot write and the addressee cannot read?

**QUESTION TWO**

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

**QUESTION THREE**

... there are those who when they come to plead  
Say make us Black Englishmen decorated Afro-Saxons  
Creole masters leading native races....

Explain the significance of the above lines and discuss how Cheney-Coker depicts a Sierra Leone of rich tradition violated by the Creole intrusion in his poem, “Freetown.”

**SECTION – B****DRAMA****QUESTION FOUR****Athol Fugard: The Island**

Fugard's The Island is an actor's play, for acting is its central metaphor and idea: acting as a means for the acting out of one's life, acting as a form of survival and acting as a basis for action." Discuss this statement with relevant textual illustrations.

**QUESTION FIVE****Wole Soyinka: Kongi's Harvest**

The pot that will eat fat  
Its bottom must be scorched  
The squirrel that will long crack nuts  
Its footpad must be sore  
The sweetest wine has flowed down  
The tapper's shattered shins.....

Discuss the above three images from the opening section (Hemlock) and show how these images summarize the play's themes.