

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2015/2016

TITLE OF PAPER: POSTCOLONIAL AFRICAN FICTION AND NON-FICTION

COURSE CODE: AL 212/ IDE AL 212

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH OF THE THREE SECTIONS (SHORT STORY, NOVEL, AUTO/BIOGRAPHY)
2. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL IN YOUR ANSWERS
3. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A FRESH SHEET
4. CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION OF CONTENT WILL COUNT IN THE AWARD OF POINTS FOR THIS PAPER
5. EACH QUESTION HAS 33 MARKS

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

QUESTION 1

In some of his stories, Ngugi capitalizes on identity crises where one character falsely discovers him/herself; where one character wants to be another character who is unfortunately another lost soul. Discuss this motif of false self-discovery and comment on the broader postcolonial cultural issues that it touches upon. Illustrate with **one short story** of your choice.

QUESTION 2

Why is first person peripheral point of view the best for telling a mysterious story? Support your answer with illustrations from Nadine Gordimer's 'Look-alikes.'

QUESTION 3

Are lovable characters necessarily socially upright beings that could be good examples to be emulated by members of a society? Why do we love even morally decadent characters in literature? Your answer should be supported by evidence from a novel of your choice.

QUESTION 4

"The fact that Jagwa, the main character in Ekwensi's *Jagwa Nana* is named after a commercial/material product is very telling of the themes and plot progression of this novel." Discuss this view with evidence from the novel.

QUESTION 5

How much credence do you accord the view that *Equiano's Travels* is not a genuine autobiography? Discuss with evidence from the text.

QUESTION 6

"It is efforts or contributions of his associates more than Equiano's ingenuity and strength of personality that propel Equiano to his destiny." Debate this view with evidence from the text.