

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2015

TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE II

COURSE CODE: AL 315/ IDE-AL 315

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. ANSWER **THREE** (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL, CHOOSING AT LEAST **ONE** (1) QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.
 2. BEGIN EACH ANSWER ON A SEPARATE PAGE.
 3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL.
 4. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GIVES YOU PERMISSION TO OPEN IT.

SECTION A: THEORETICAL ISSUES

Answer at least one question in this section.

Question 1

Discuss Vladimir Propp's Formalist approach to the study of oral narratives. Your discussion should include a critical evaluation of Propp's approach. (20 marks)

Question 2

Compare and contrast Structuralism and Deconstruction. Also, briefly discuss the complexity of a deconstructive approach and its relevance to the study of oral narratives.

(20 marks)

Question 3

Elaborate on how the oral performer engages the audience **cognitively** and **emotionally**.

(20 marks)

SECTION B: APPLICATION

Answer at least one question in this section.

Question 1

Explain how the narrative, “Lokuthula naLomachalachala” endorses gendered stereotypes about Swazi women and destabilizes those biases. (20 marks)

Question 2

Nature contributes to the artistic and apt handling of theme in the ancient Zulu narrative, “Umxakaza Wakogingqwayo.” Discuss. (20 marks)

Question 3

Elaborate on how **plot structure** and **choice of characters** in the narrative “Dumba” advance the narrative’s main theme. (20 marks)