

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATIONS PAPER, DECEMBER 2015

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO MODERN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ALL 101 (STRICTLY FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS)

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS IN ALL, AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH OF THE THREE SECTIONS
- (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 IS WORTH 33 MARKS

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

SECTION A: THEORETICAL ISSUES

QUESTION 1

Write short notes on four of the following with illustrations from short stories of your choice. (Length: do not exceed a page for each)

- (a) Climax
- (b) Symbol
- (c) Foreshadowing
- (d) Imagery
- (e) Epiphany
- (f) Cognitive Dissonance

QUESTION 2

Literature is best defined as "art in words." Explain this definition with the aid of literary and or cultural illustrations of your choice.

QUESTION 3

In his article, "Designed for Sex – What We Lose When We Forget What Sex is For," J. Budziszweiski sheds profound insight into the workings of human sexuality. How fruitful /productive are Budziszweiski's conclusions in making sense of such characters as Nyaguthi and Beatrice in Ngugi wa Thiongo's 'Moments of Glory'?

SECTION B: PROSE FICTION

QUESTION 4

Discuss the characterization of Unoka, Okonkwo and Nwoye. What identity issues did the last two characters inherit from their fathers and how does that inheritance determine their ends?

QUESTION 5

“The place of women in African culture is not as simple and straight forward as the Eurocentric feminist discourse would suggest.” Engage this debate with the aid of illustrations from an African literary text of your choice.

SECTION C: PROSE BIOGRAPHY

QUESTION 6

What is the relationship between (auto) biography and history? Illustrate your response with examples from an auto/biographical text of your choice.

QUESTION 7

“It is impossible to retrieve the past the way we do a book in the library.” Why is this statement important in discussions about memory and (auto) biographical writing? Support your answer with illustrations from a text of your choice.

END