

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO MODERN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ALL 101 (**FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS ONLY**) MAIN DECEMBER EXAMINATION,
2016

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

(1) ANSWER (SIX) 6 QUESTIONS IN ALL

(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 ANSWER CONTENT WILL
COUNT IN THE AWARD OF POINTS FOR THIS PAPER

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

**SECTION A SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS – ANSWER 3 QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION
YOUR ANSWER SHOULD NOT EXCEED FIFTEEN (15) LINES**

SHORT STORY PROSE

1. In Minutes of Glory, the leading character is described as ‘a wounded bird in flight: a forced landing now and then but nevertheless wobbling from place to place . . .’ Comment on this imagery’s effectiveness to foreshadow Beatrice’s life’ journey as well as her end. (10 marks)
2. The ubiquity of some characters in some stories renders them invisible. How does the short story, Simangele and Vusi exemplify the truth of this assertion? (10 marks)

POETRY

3. Comment on how Christopher van Wyk’s ‘In Detention’ satirizes the dictatorial regime’s failure to conceal its brutality. (10 marks)
4. How does Wally Mongane Serote’s poem, ‘City Johannesburg’ depict the loss of cultural and self-identity? (10 marks)

**SECTION B – ESSAY QUESTIONS – YOUR ANSWER SHOULD NOT EXCEED THREE PAGES.
ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION**

PROSE FICTION

5. ‘One is defined more by what s/he embraces than by what s/he rejects/represses.’ Discuss this view using evidence from Chinua Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart*. (23 marks)

6. 'The tragedy in *Things Fall Apart* emanates not so much from Okonkwo's character as from a cultural dislocation of Igbo society by colonial culture.' Address this debate with support from *Things Fall Apart*. (23 marks)

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

7. Use textual evidence from Ellen Kuzwayo's *Call Me Woman* to comment on the statement, 'Ellen Kuzwayo is history in the person of one woman.' (23 marks)
8. 'Nostalgia for one's childhood says so much about one's past while simultaneously commenting on the present.' Do you agree with this assertion? What present circumstances fill Ellen Kuzwayo with nostalgia in *Call Me Woman*? (23 marks)

(1 bonus point!) END