

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
MAIN EXAMINATION, MAY 2018

TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE III

COURSE CODE: AL 416/ IDE-AL 416

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER **THREE (3)** QUESTIONS: QUESTION **ONE (1)** AND **TWO** OTHER QUESTIONS.

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: COMPULSORY

Answer question ONE in this section.

### Question 1

Discuss the challenges of parenting presented in the three proverbs:

- a) Hamba juba bayokuncutsa phambili. *Go dove, they will pluck out your wings ahead.*
- b) Ingalimunyisa, kepha angeke ilikhotse. *It can breast feed it, but it won't lick it.*
- c) Lugotjwa lusemanti. *You bend a stick while it is still soft and flexible.*

(20 Marks)

## SECTION B

Answer any TWO questions in this section.

### Question 2

Critically discuss the following modern riddles:

- a) Ngikuphica ngemfati longenasifuba. *I quiz you with a woman who has no chest.*
- b) Ngikuphica ngelijaha lelihamba litsetsa, lapho lengce khona bantfu basala batse nja. *I quiz you with a man who goes a round shouting and leaves lifeless people where he passes by.*
- c) Ngikuphica ngestadium sigwele nswi ngala nangala kodvwa nani ibhola kusuka. *I quiz you with a stadium that is full to capacity on both sides, however, the soccer match does not resume.*

(20 Marks)

### Question 3

Citing relevant examples from an epic discussed in class, discuss the characteristics of an African epic hero.

(20 Marks)

### Question 4

Critically analyse **three** Swazi proverbs of your choice in order to show that pretence is rife within the Swazi society.

(20 Marks)

### Question 5

The poem below **purely** presents king Mswati III as a stern and powerful leader. To what extent do you agree with this claim?

(20 Marks)

#### **TIBONGO TENKHOSI MSWATI III**

Hwanc'ungulomanyakazisa,  
Hwanc'uyindida yamatjitji nengudlela.  
Unyakazis'iMbali yemaSwati,  
Yashulungana yabekelela  
Ibange khon'eLudzidzini.  
Yaye yatitsela kuJim Gama,  
Abesime ngesihlangw'emphundwini.

Ingw'edla ngamabalay'amnyama namhlophe  
Ozandla zigamule imilomo yetingwenya  
Titawubhash'emaviyo ngemaviyo  
Neticheme ngeticheme,  
Nawe-ke Flamashina Mbombadiya  
Was'ewubuyel'enkelebheni  
Uyodl'udzaka nenkalankala kuphela

Dladla sembube ungumdaphuz'ongenasinini  
Udzaphut'umhlaba  
Kwasiphuka tjani netimphandze tabo  
Kwasiphuka tihlahle netimphamphandze tato.  
Ngiyesaba Ndlaluselwa kwengca ngakaMadlenya  
Ngesaba Tilo kubhodla kulakanyana.

Imbodlane yemahlatsi  
Yabhodla kwaye kwevakalal'etul'eNkoyoyo  
Mngcivizo weMbube uyaphilisa  
Ungcivit'emashumi ngemashum'eminyaka  
Ngwane odokotelwa  
Mjovo waDokotela  
Mjovo waESRA naNDS uyamamatsekisa  
Kwachibika lwand'eNkomazi  
Acephuka emagagas'kuMaguga  
Hha! Mjovo awuna ekhuwi  
Ubabele tishayamtsetfo,  
Wababela tatimtsetfo.