

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

TITLE OF PAPER: A THEMATIC & HISTORICAL SURVEY OF SISWATI LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ALL 301

MAIN EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2018

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL
- (2) DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL IN YOUR ANSWERS
- (3) EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A FRESH PAGE
- (4) CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION OF ANSWER CONTENT WILL COUNT IN THE AWARD OF CREDIT POINTS FOR THIS PAPER
- (5) EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 33 MARKS (AND YOU HAVE A BONUS OF 1 POINT!)

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

Question 1

In discussions on Siswati literature, how productive is the label, 'fire on the mountain' in reference to Siswati literature? Briefly describe this issue with the aid of at least three texts that illustrate the validity of the label. 33 marks

Question 2

Why do you think Siswati literature is fascinated with juvenile/young protagonists, especially girls? What thematic gains do authors make from foregrounding girls in their literary works? 33 marks

Question 3

With the aid of two short stories of your choice, discuss literary influence in Siswati literature. 33 marks

Question 4

What thematic and aesthetic gains do Swazi writers make out of titling their works using proverbs and idioms? Support your argument using at least three suitable titles of literary works in Siswati. 33 marks

Question 5

The regiment name of Swazi maidens of the 1980s – 1990s was the Ingabisa, meaning something that's shown off or flaunted. The current maidens are called Imbali, meaning a flower. What do these names signify about the place of maidens in Swazi culture? How then do you explain the prevalence of older women portrayed as gossips and murderers as in Magagula's *Wena Bewungatsini* and B.S. Ntshangase's *Ngatilaya*? 33 marks