

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION, MAY/JUNE 2019

TITLE OF PAPER: WOMEN AND ORAL LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ALL 406

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

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

How does the narrative “Inyanyabulembu Nemfati” propagate African Womanist ideas?
(20 Marks)

SECTION B

Answer any TWO questions from this section.

Question 2

- a) According to Obioma Nnaemeka (1994), how have African women used and developed African Oral Literature? (10)
- b) How did African Nationalism contribute to the marginalisation of African women? (10)

(20 Marks)

Question 3

With close reference to the poem below, explore how Queen LaboTsibeni/Gwamile transcended the prescribed gender roles for African women. (20 Marks)

TIBONGO TENDLOVUKAZI LABOTSIBENI/GWAMILE

Mlunguzi wendlovu kuvaliwe,
Kualwe ngemaphama etibhamu.
Mgwami longavutfwa nasetiko,
Lowehlule timbita tebelumbi
NetemaSwati.

Mtimba longadzinwa yinhlamba yemaSwati,
Nhliyiyo lebovu njengeyemamba.
Mahlasela ngelilanga
Emakhosi ahlasela ngemphi.
Lubhalule emanti labovu
Unyatsele iMbabane yadvungana.

Makhabane longadzinwa ngemaveyisi,
Bebatsi bazakumdida umkhaba
BoNkoseluhlaza banaPiti Jubheli.
Tikhundlakhundla tabologwaja ngabologwaja.
Titfo timbhobho njengetendlovu.

Question 4

Discuss the complexity of Swazi women as revealed in the song below:

Iphi Indvodza Yami?

Iphi indvodza yami! Iphi bafati?

Uyibuza kubani, Isemashendeni!

Nginikeni indvodza yami! Nginikeni bafati!

Uyibuza kubani, Isemashendeni!

Nginikeni indvodza yami, ngiyayifuna bafati!

Uyibuza kubani, isemashendeni!

(20 Marks)

Question 5

Discuss the three main currents of African-Feminist literature presented by Susan Arndt (2002).

(20 Marks)