

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2019

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

COURSE CODE: ALL301- **FULLTIME / IDE**

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. ANSWER **THREE (3)** QUESTIONS IN TOTAL: **ONE (1)** QUESTION FROM **EACH SECTION**.
 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.

Answer ONE question in EACH section.

SECTION A: The Short Story

Question 1

LaBhila in “Insimbi YemaSwati” and Zungu in “Sijeziso Sesetsenjwa” are similar in many respects. To what extent do you agree with this statement? (20 Marks)

OR

Question 2

Comment on how Sibandze in “Mkhiphe!” aptly depicts the plight of illegitimate children.

(20 Marks)

SECTION B: The Novel

Question 3

With close reference to Mkhonta’s *Ubolibamba Lingashoni*, elaborate on how Lungisiwe becomes Tobhini’s voice of reason. (20 Marks)

OR

Question 4

“Kodvwa ngiyafunga ngiyagomela ngitsi ubolibamba lingashoni. Kuhlwa kutakubamba ngiyakutjela.” Discuss both the truthful and paradoxical nature of Mkhando’s above words (*Ubolibamba Lingashoni*). (20 Marks)

SECTION C: Poetry

Question 5

Compared to male writers, Swazi female writers have been most vocal in criticising irresponsible Swazi men. Discuss how A.E.B Mkhonta in the poem “Ulivila” breaks the norm.

OR

Question 6

Critically discuss the literary devices (and their effect) used by Magagula to advance thematic concerns in his poem, "Letfwese."
(20 Marks)

LETFWESE

Vunulani makhangala nengcaye,
Ngekufika kwelihlob'umyeni,
Liniletsela lensha ingubo,
Lendzala yavitsika yaphela,
Ngengcilato yesigwadzi busika,
Sinihlibila makhangala siningcunula,
Nasala ningenangubo nihawukisa.

Umhlaba bewuhleti ungcunu,
Ingubo yawo leluhlata wemukiwe,
Wemukwe busika sigwadzi semvelo,
Ngemoya siyiphephetsa siyivitsita,
Yahhumbuka njengelumamadvu
Lwemfat'afelwe yindvodza.

Tihlahla betime tishikilile,
Kushikila kwentfomb'ingatsandzi,
Emacemb'ahhohlok'aphela,
Asal'ebalen'emagala tinsaba,
Kwangatsi ngimisipha yalesishwaphene,
Lesimichilibana salukati sakhona,
Ngetiga taso sigwadzi semvelo.

Wo! Letfwese manje lihlobo!
Ngiphakamis'emehlo ngabona
Onkh'emakhangala savunula
Letiluhlata tembatfo temvelo,
Ngabona kuchakaz'imbali'etsafeni,
Ngeva kuyiyitel'inyosi'itsatsela,
Ngeva kunjilota tinyoni'etulu.

Nembala letfwese lihlobo!
Ngeva bundzindzindz'etulu kwemakhangala,
Ngasibona sibhakabhaka siphakatsile
Njengenkhomati legcwalis'imicenge,
Ngawev'emafons'acatsaka,
Ngativa ticoc'emifuleni,
Ngasho ngatsi letfwese lihlobo.

Wo! Baleka busika ndzini!
Balek'ubalekisisa wengce
Onkhan'emakhangala lowabonako,
Wen'awunangub'awunalutfo,
Uhambisa kweluphuy'uyayephutela,

Wetfwel'emaniklinik'wayisaphi?
Baleka busika lingene lihlobo!