

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
MAIN EXAMINATION
APRIL 2021

COURSE NAME: INTRODUCTION TO MODERN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ALL101 / IDE ALL101

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS, ONE FROM EACH SECTION. DO NOT OMIT ANY SECTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 20 MARKS.**
- 2. EACH ANSWER SHOULD COMMENCE ON A SEPARATE SHEET.**
- 3. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE SAME TEXT AT LENGTH MORE THAN ONCE.**
- 4. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL.**
- 5. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.**

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

SECTION – A
PROSE FICTION & NON-FICTION

QUESTION ONE

Chinua Achebe: Things Fall Apart

Discuss how the episode of Ikemefuna's execution is central to the novel and how it is crucial to the thematic development of the novel.

QUESTION TWO

Es'kia Mphahlele: "The Master of Doornvlei"

"Apartheid not only establishes an unbridgeable gap between people but sets them increasingly against one another." Discuss this statement with illustrations from Mphahlele's short story.

QUESTION THREE

Chimamanda N. Adichie: "The Danger of a Single Story"

What does Adichie mean by a "single story"? Why does she believe "single stories" are dangerous?

SECTION – B
POETRY

QUESTION FOUR

Okot p'Bitek: Song of Lawino

- a. Discuss how Lawino exposes immorality and religious hypocrisy in the section titled, "I am Ignorant of the Good Word in the Clean Book."

OR

- b. How does Lawino contrast two different lifestyles? Pick your illustrations from the sections titled, "The Woman With Whom I Share My Husband" and "I Do Not Know the Dances of White People."

QUESTION FIVE

Read the poem given below and examine the poet's use of similes, alliteration and Onomatopoeia and explain how they contribute to the effectiveness of the poem.

David Rubadiri's "An African Thunderstorm" (Malawi)

From the west
Clouds come hurrying with the wind
Turning
Sharply
Here and there
Like a plague of locusts
Whirling
Tossing up things on its tail
Like a madman chasing nothing

Pregnant clouds
Ride stately on its back
Gathering to perch on hills
Like dark sinister wings;
The wind whistles by
And trees bend to let it pass.

In the village
Screams of delighted children
Toss and turn
In the din of the whirling wind.
Women –
Babies clinging on their backs –
Dart about
In and out
Madly
The wind whistles by
Whilst trees bend to let us pass.

Clothes were like tattered flags
Flying off
To expose dangling breasts
As jagged blinding flashes
Rumble, tremble, and crack
Amidst the smell of fired smoke
And the pelting march of the storm.

SECTION – C

DRAMA

QUESTION SIX

Wole Soyinka: The Trials of Brother Jero

How does Soyinka use irony, exaggeration and invective as tools of satire to hammer home his bitter criticism of religious roguery that has become rampant in post-colonial Africa?

QUESTION SEVEN

Ama Ata Aidoo: The Dilemma of a Ghost

Discuss the complexities of exile and alienation that Eulalie faces after her return to “homeland”.