

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

**COURSE NAME: AFRICAN WOMEN WRITERS**

**COURSE CODE: ALL402**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. **ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS. CHOOSE QUESTIONS FROM BOTH 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

**QUESTION ONE**

**Ama Ata Aidoo: Changes: A Love Story**

“... Polygamy can be liberating to the woman, rather than inhibiting her, especially if she is educated” (Buchi Emecheta in “Feminism with a small ‘f’”).

Does Esi reflect similar thoughts like Emecheta when she decides to move from a monogamous relationship to a polygamous relationship? Your discussion can either support or refute the given statement with relevant illustrations from Aidoo’s novel.

**QUESTION TWO**

**Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: The Purple Hibiscus**

Discuss Eugene’s “Jekyll and Hyde” personality with relevant textual illustrations and show how it affects his private and public domains.

**QUESTION THREE**

**Nawal el Saadawi: Woman at Point Zero**

Interrogate Firdaus’ ability to inhabit her own story and to become the subject of her own history as an act of rebellion.

## SECTION – B

## PROSE NON-FICTION

## QUESTION FOUR

**Buchi Emecheta: Head Above Water**

“Here I was in England thinking that the African woman had really progressed, but had she? Then the voice of my Chi came and said to me, of course she has progressed, a great deal. When your mother’s bride price was paid she was happy because she was pleased to be owned. When it came to your turn, you were crying because you valued your independence.”

Discuss the relevance of bride price in African culture and show, with textual illustrations, how Emecheta interprets bride price compared to her mother. Take your cue from the above quotation.

## QUESTION FIVE

**Lauretta Ngcobo: “African Motherhood – Myth and Reality”**

“... in some of the Bantu languages, the word marriage is synonymous with journey.... Many young girls will be forgiven for their eager anticipation of their marriage and a place where they will finally belong. But as we shall soon see, disillusionment awaits them. This is double jeopardy, for they will never really belong anywhere”

What is this “double jeopardy” that Ngcobo describes in her essay and how is it related to the alienation experienced by married women in their new homes?