

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**FINAL EXAMINATION 2005**

TITLE OF PAPER: A STUDY OF POETRY

COURSE CODE: E3P6

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER TWO ANNOTATIONS FROM PART I AND TWO  
QUESTIONS FROM PART II**

2. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE  
SAME TEXT AT LENGTH MORE THAN ONCE

3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY  
READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION ROOM.

4. CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH WILL BE REWARDED AND  
GRAMMATICAL AND SPELLING MISTAKES PENALIZED.

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

**PART I**

**Annotate any two of the following:**

- 1) ... somewhere in sands of the desert  
A shape with lion body and the head of a man,  
A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,  
Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it  
Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds. (10 Marks)
  
- 2) Facially, I am brunette, but, madam you should see  
The rest of me. Palm of my hand, soles of my feet  
Are a peroxide blond. (10 Marks)
  
- 3) a red eye wiped by a tattered  
handkerchief of clouds,  
“Oh! Dear sun!  
won't you warm my heart  
with hope?”  
The train went on its way to nowhere (10 Marks)
  
- 4) For he seemed to me again like a king,  
Like a king in exile, uncrowned in the underworld,  
Now due to be crowned again. (10 Marks)

**PART II**

**Answer any two of the following questions:**

- John Keats: “Ode to a Nightingale”
- 5) “The poet sees the world as a vale of tears in which all human activities are subject to decay and death. He only finds certainty and survival, or indeed truth, in ideal beauty . . . the beauty of nature exemplified by the nightingale’s song” (Robert Gittings). Discuss.

Robert Browning: "My Last Duchess"

- 6) "'My Last Duchess' gives ample scope to Browning to develop his unique genius in the delineation of the complexity of human psychology and motivation.' Do you agree?"

Andrew Marvell: "To His Coy Mistress"

- 7) "It is a combination of levity and seriousness that is the hallmark of Marvell's art in this poem" (T. S. Eliot). Discuss.

Geoffrey Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales

- 8a) Give a brief account of medieval society on the basis of Chaucer's "General Prologue."

(or)

- 8b) "'The Pardoner's Tale' reflects the character of the storyteller.' Do you agree?"