

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2005

TITLE OF PAPER: A STUDY OF POETRY

COURSE CODE: E3P6

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) 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) ... but now I know
That twenty centuries
of stony sleep
were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,
And what rough beast, its hour come round at last
Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born? (10 Marks)

- 2) ... Caught I was, foully.
'HOW DARK?' ... I had not misheard ... 'ARE YOU LIGHT
OR VERY DAKR?' Button B. Button A. stench
of rancid breath of public hide-and-speak. (10 Marks)

- 3) men shorn
of all human honour
like sheep after shearing,
bleating at the blistering wind,
"Go away! Cold wind! Go away!
Can't you see we are naked?" (10 Marks)

- 4) Was it cowardice, that I dared not kill him?
Was it perversity, that I longed to talk to him?
Was it humility, to feel so honoured?
I felt so honoured. (10 Marks)

PART II

Answer any two of the following questions

- John Keats: "Ode to a Nightingale"
- 5) "The nightingale's song plunges the poet into a delightful state which is both painful and joyful" – Do you agree.

Robert Browning: "My Last Duchess"

- 6) "In this dramatic monologue, Browning captures the salient features of a person's character at a climatic moment when he is liable to speak about himself ..." – Do you agree.

Andrew Marvell: "To His Coy Mistress"

- 7) In this poem, Marvell uses the ancient theme of "carpe diem" (enjoy the day; seize the present opportunity) – Do you agree.

Geoffrey Chaucer: The Canterbury Tales

- 8) Describe the characters representing the church, the state and the middle class in Chaucer's "General Prologue" to The Canterbury Tales.

D. H. Lawrence: "Snake"

9. Discuss the narrator's judgements, the societal subconscious and the symbolic barriers by which he defines reality in the poem "Snake."