

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2006**

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ENG 104/IDE ENG 104

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION
CARRIES 30 MARKS.**

**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.**

Answer any two questions:

1. John Milton: Paradise Lost Books I and IX

Books I and IX of Paradise Lost chiefly manifest human folly amidst God's benevolence – Discuss.

2. Jonathan Swift: Gulliver's travels

Discuss the character of Gulliver from his voyages to Lilliput and Brobdingnag.

3. Edmund Spenser: "Epithalamion"

Consider "Epithalamion" as a wedding song.

4. William Shakespeare: Hamlet

Bring out the characteristic features of a tragedy with special reference to Hamlet.

5. Geoffrey Chaucer: "General Prologue" to The Canterbury Tales

a) "The Canterbury Tales reflects the Medieval Age in all its colours, customs and sounds". Does this statement bear adequate testimony to the personalities and tales of the Reeve and the Miller?

or

b) "Chaucer must have been a man of a most wonderful comprehensive nature, because, as it has been truly observed of him, he has taken into the compass of his Canterbury Tales, the various manners and humours... of the whole English nation of his 'age'" Discuss Chaucer's scope of characterization in "The General Prologue".