

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION 2006**

**TITLE OF PAPER:** A STUDY OF THE NOVEL

**COURSE CODE:** ENG306 / IDE-ENG306 / E3P4

**TIME ALLOWED:** 2 HOURS (E3 P4: 3 hours)

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. Answer Question One plus ONE other question.  
(E3P4: Answer Question One plus TWO other questions.)
  2. Do not discuss the same text more than once.
  3. Correct expression and use of literary conventions will be rewarded, the reverse will be penalized.
  4. All the questions carry equal marks.
  5. This paper is 3 pages long; cover page included.

**THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN  
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

Question One (Compulsory)

Moll Flanders (1722) Daniel Defoe

Tess of the D'Urbervilles (1891) Thomas Hardy

**Either:**

- a) Through comparing the plot structure, characterization, setting, and point of view, as well as any other visible defining aspects of Moll Flanders and Tess of the D'Urbervilles, discuss the development of the novel form from picaresque to realism.

**OR:**

- b) Drawing your illustrations from a first person narrative novel studied on the course, identify and discuss the advantages and/or disadvantages that the novelist encounters in his/her chosen point of view. [20]  
How does he/she overcome the disadvantages? Discuss with examples. [10]

Question Two

Nervous Conditions (1988) Tsitsi Dangarembga

The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born (1968) Ayi Kwei Armah

- (i) Discuss how Dangarembga in Nervous Conditions and Armah in The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born use their respective central character to respond to Africa's post-colonial situation. Your discussion should focus on clearly identified themes. [20]
- (ii) What factors, in your view, contribute to Dangarembga and Armah's respective focus and viewpoint? [10]

Question Three

The Prodigal Husband (1999) Lazarus Miti

Who between Musa and Isaki is, according to your view, the hero of The Prodigal Husband? Respond with a fully supported answer.

Question Four

Burger's Daughter (1979) Nadine Gordimer

Discuss Rosa Burger's role in Burger's Daughter, especially in relation to the 'burden' of belonging to a politically radical family. Your discussion should indicate how early she is confronted by this 'burden' and at what stage she 'off-loads' it and how, if at all.

Question Five

A House For Mr Biswas (1961) V.S. Naipaul

“Mr Biswas is portrayed in A House For Mr Biswas as a rebel.” What is he rebelling against? Give a fully illustrated response.

Question Six

Tess of the D'Urbervilles

To what extent is Tess in Tess of the D'Urbervilles both a victim and an architect of her fate? Discuss with illustrations.

Question Seven

Moll Flanders

Does Moll Flanders have any relevance to a twenty-first century reader? Discuss in relation to three of its central themes.