

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2008**

- TITLE OF PAPER** : **A STUDY OF DRAMA**
- COURSE CODE** : **ENG 305/IDE ENG 305/E3P5**
- TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS FOR ENG 305/IDE-ENG 305**  
: **THREE (3) HOURS FOR E3P5**
- INSTRUCTIONS** : **1. ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION. EACH QUESTION CARRIES EQUAL MARKS.**  
**2. E3P5 ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS.**  
**3. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE SAME TEXT MORE THAN ONCE.**  
**4. CORRECT USE OF ENGLISH AND LITERARY CONVENTIONS WILL BE REWARDED AND THE REVERSE WILL BE PENALISED.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

## SECTION A

Either:

1. Discuss some of the features that drama shares with other genres of literature, as well as those that are peculiar to it. (30)
2. To what extent does Shakespeare adhere to the Aristotelian idea of tragedy in the writing of his tragedy? (30)
3. Basing your argument on some of the drama texts you have read, what influence has African traditional performances had on modern (written) African drama? (30)

## SECTION B

The Lion and the Jewel – Soyinka

4. “In this satire Soyinka has used the weak point in people’s characters, especially those that they are mistakenly proud of, in order to highlight the shortcomings of what those people represent.” Discuss. (30)

The Gods Are Not To Blame - Rotimi

5. “In this play, Rotimi adheres to the Aristotelian idea of tragedy, yet he successfully situates it within an African context”. Discuss the pros and cons of this. (30)

The Coat – Fugard

Either:

6. “Five characters/actors are in the process of creating a drama script out of a given situation.” What are some of the techniques that the five characters/actors use in carrying out this exercise? (30)

Or:

Nongogo – Fugard

7. Discuss how in Nongogo Fugard has used stories of individuals to demonstrate the broken hopes and dreams of people who leave the rural area and go to the city with the intention to improve their lives. (30)

Othello - Shakespeare

8. Discuss how Shakespeare uses the soliloquy to inform the audience of what is happening in the character's mind, or provide information concerning other participants in the action as the play progresses from the rising action, through the climax and finally the falling action. (30)

Death of a Salesman- Miller

9. "Among other things, this play explores the intensity of human passion as well as a determination to succeed and be loved." Discuss this statement in relation to the play. (30)