

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION

MAY 2008

**COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED COMPOSITION, READING AND
TEXTUALTY**

COURSE NO.: ENG 401

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. THIS PAPER HAS SIX QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
- 2. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
- 3. EACH QUESTION CARRIES TWENTY (20) MARKS.**
- 4. CANDIDATES ARE EXPECTED TO PAY ATTENTION
TO GOOD LANGUAGE AND THE USE OF LINGUISTIC
CONVENTIONS WHERE NECESSARY.**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO BY THE
INVIGILATOR**

Question 1

Discuss any four (4) of the following theories of reading that attempt to explain how we comprehend discourse.

- a) The Schema Theory
- b) Top-Down Theory of Reading
- c) Bottom-up Theory of Reading
- d) Interactive Theories of reading
- e) Bakera's Metacognitive theory

[20 marks]

Question 2

Reading is a social act. Discuss this statement in relation to the socio-cultural theory of reading. Illustrate your answer with appropriate examples.

[20 marks]

Question 3

A sequence of sentences does not necessarily create text / discourse. Discuss

[20 marks]

Question 4

The presentation of information has a direct impact on the interpretation of that discourse. Explain how each of the following is used in the presentation and interpretation of information:

- a) Staging information
- b) Perspectivization
- c) Given-new information
- d) Discourse connections (semantic relations and pragmatic relations)

[20marks]

Question 5

Discuss measures that should be taken to ensure that our society becomes a reading society.

[20 marks]

Question 6

Discuss the relationship between language, context of culture and context of situation. Use a diagram to illustrate your discussion.

[20 marks]

Question 7

When people read a passage, what do they bring to the text? Your answer should highlight the role of the text, reader and perspective of the writer.

[20 marks]