

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

JULY 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 the following concepts illustrating with appropriate examples:

- a) Inferences
- b) Activating background or the role of prior knowledge
- c) Context
- d) Presuppositions

[20 marks]

Question 2

For a reader to comprehend a text, s/he has to predict and preview the material in order that s/he can be in a position to assess whether the text is appropriate for the intended purpose. Discuss previewing and predicting in the light of the above-mentioned statement.

[20 marks]

Question 3

With the aid of examples, discuss in detail the five (5) strategies attached to metacognition.

[20marks]

Question 4

Discuss the model of the reading process developed by Walter Kinstch and Teun van Dijk. What are the limitations of this propositional mode?

[20 marks]

Questions 5

- a) (i) Define the concept of deixes in discourse connections. (5)
- (ii) Point out deictical elements in the following sentences
 - a) The phone is ringing.
 - b) I've got six of them.
 - c) There's no such thing as ghosts.
 - d) Pete is sitting in the garden.
 - e) Here we go!

(15)

1.

b)

- i) What is the prominent / important message in the passage below?
- ii) In which position is the prominent message staged in each paragraph?

iii) What can you conclude about the interpretation of each paragraph?

1.

- A: I am against an expensive overseas vacation. We have already spent so much money on special things this year. And after all, there are so many fun things we can do in our own country.
- B: We have already spent so much money on special things this year. And after all, there are so many fun things we can do in our own country. That is why I am against an expensive overseas vacation.
- C: We have already spent so much money on special things this year. That is why I am against an expensive overseas vacation. And after all, there are so many fun things we can do in our own country.

(5)

[20 marks]

Question 6

- a) Discuss the register theory. (10)
- b) Discuss the schematic structure of genre. (10)

[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]

2.