

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2008/9

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ENG 103

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. Answer TWO questions, one from each section.**
 - 2. Each question carries 30 marks.**
 - 3. Incorrect use of English and literary conventions will be penalised.**
 - 4. Do not repeat material or write about the same text more than once.**
 - 5. This paper is 3 pages long, cover page included.**

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

SECTION A: THEORY Answer ONE question

Question One

- a) Identify the four basic elements of prose and drama. [4]
- b) Focusing on ONE of them discuss with the aid of examples from any of the prose fiction studied on the course how authors use this element to advance the theme. [22]
- c) State the central theme(s) of the work you've chosen above. [4]

Question Two

Using illustrations from the two plays studied on the course, compare and contrast the Shakespearean plot structure and progression of a tragedy and comedy. [30]

SECTION B: Practical Criticism Answer ONE question

Question Three

A Christmas Carol Charles Dickens

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow:

He had not gone far, when coming on towards him he beheld the portly gentleman, who had walked into his counting-house the day before and said, 'Scrooge and Marley's, I believe?' It sent a pang across his heart to think how this old gentleman would look upon him when they met; but he knew what path lay straight before him, and he took it.

'My dear sir,' said Scrooge, quickening his pace, and taking the gentleman by both his hands. 'How do you do? I hope you succeeded yesterday. It was very kind of you. A merry Christmas to you, sir!'

- a) In not more than a page and a half, summarise the events, along with Scrooge's behaviour towards people in general, which culminate with this encounter. [12]
- b) Briefly highlight the unfolding events after this encounter. [10]
- c) What moral lessons are imparted through Scrooge's experiences? [5]
- d) Have you, yourself, learned anything from Scrooge's experiences? Discuss in five lines. [2]

Question Four

Discuss the ambiguous role of Feste in Twelfth Night in relation to the play's major themes. [30]

Question Five

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow:

I will drop in his way some obscure epistles of love; wherein, by the colour of his beard, the shape of his leg, the manner of his gait, the expressure of his eye, forehead, and complexion, he shall find himself most feelingly personated. I can write very like my lady, your niece; on a forgotten matter we can hardly make distinction of our hands.

- a) Identify the play in which this speech is found. [2]
- b) Identify the speaker. [2]
- c) Identify the addressee. [2]
- d) Who are they speaking about? [2]
- e) Discuss what the characters are talking about and how their actions fit the mode of the play's sub-category. [22]