

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION 2008/9

TITLE OF PAPER: A STUDY OF THE NOVEL

COURSE CODE: ENG 306 / IDE-ENG 306

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. Answer Question One plus ONE other question.

2. Do not discuss the same text more than once.

3. Correct expression and adherence to literary conventions will be rewarded, the reverse will be penalised.

4. All the questions carry equal marks.

5. This paper is 2 pages long; cover page included.

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

Question One (Compulsory)

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
Pamela (1740) Samuel Richardson

Answer either a OR b:

- a) Relate the critical observation, "Fielding and Richardson gave form and pattern to the novel" (*Literary History of England*, 1967: 961), to the two texts cited above, focusing mainly on **aspects of form or structure**. [30]
- b) "The novel as a genre has always accommodated [the] vision of unimportant people in history; in reading novels we hear the news about people who are not kings and queens and great chiefs, who have never been heard of before." (Introduction, Pamela:13). Relate this critical assertion to **characterisation** in the two texts above. [30]

Question Two

Tess of the D'Urbervilles (1891) Thomas Hardy

Focusing mainly on **plot**, discuss how Tess of the D'Urbervilles mirrors the ultimate classical development of the novel form. [30]

OR

According to Cooke and Stevenson (302), Tess of the D'Urbervilles is "the story of a labourer's daughter brought to ruin by her own trustful innocence." Discuss this critical perspective in relation to *Tess's love life*. [30]

Question Three

Place of Destiny (2005) Margaret Ogola

- a) Identify and discuss the experimentations with **form** and **narrative technique** in this twenty-first century novel. [20]
- b) In your view, what impact has this experimentation had on **one** of the following: delineation of characters, the author's vision, advancement of themes? [10]

Question Four

The Prodigal Husband (1999) Lazarus Miti

- a) Focusing either on Tisa, Rhoda or Shuzi's wives, discuss Miti's portrayal of women in The Prodigal Husband. [20]
- b) Briefly highlight your response to Miti's portrayal of women. [10]