

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS 2009**

**TITLE OF PAPER:** TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY STUDIES

**COURSE CODE:** ENG 408/ IDE-ENG 408

**TIME ALLOWED:** 2 HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. This paper is in TWO sections. Section A (Language Topics) and Section B (Literature Topics).
2. Answer TWO questions: One from each Section. USE SEPARATE BOOKLETS FOR EACH SECTION.
3. All the questions carry equal marks.
4. Close attention should be paid to content, organisation, expression and mechanical accuracy in the essay type questions.
5. This paper is 2 pages long; cover page included.

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

## **SECTION A (LANGUAGE TOPICS)**

### **Question 1 (30 marks)**

Write brief explanatory notes on each of the following:

- a. The **productive capacity** of human language (10 marks).
- b. The differences between **hearing** and **listening** (5 marks).
- c. *Argumentum ad hominem* (5 marks).
- d. **Common core features** of the English language (10 marks).

### **Question 2 (30 marks)**

- a. Distinguish between the concepts of **time** and **tense** in the English language (15 marks).
- b. Describe the ways in which the English language marks future time (15 marks)

### **Question 3 (30 marks)**

- a. What is "Standard English"? (10 marks)
- b. In what ways have **common core features** assisted the English language to remain one single language despite its many regional varieties? (20 marks).

## **SECTION B (LITERATURE TOPICS)**

**In this section, do not repeat or write about the same text at length more than once.**

### **Question 4 (30 marks)**

How has African Diaspora literature harnessed the African culture to its advantage? Use the work of at least one African-American writer to substantiate your argument.

### **Question 5 (30 marks)**

How have African-American feminist scholars gained from the Western feminist experience? Cite at least two texts and writers to advance your argument.

### **Question 6 (30 marks)**

Does African-American literature share similarities with African Continental literature? Explain this clearly with themes in texts that manifest these commonalities in both literatures.

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