

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2010

COURSE TITLE: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ENG 104/IDE-ENG 104

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

- INSTRUCTION:
1. Answer TWO questions.
 2. Your answer should not exceed three pages.
 3. Do not repeat material or write about the same text more than once.
 4. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be rewarded and the reverse will be penalised.

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BY THE INVIGILATOR

The Canterbury Tales Chaucer

1. Using "The Miller's Tale" discuss how Chaucer seeks to expose wrong doers both in the Church and among the laity. [30]

Selection of Sonnets from Amoretti Spenser and Astrophil and Stella Sidney

2. Discuss the features of the following sonnet and explain why you think it is an English or Italian sonnet. [30]

Comming to kisse her lyps (such grace I found)
Me seemd I smelt a gardin of sweet flowres
That dainty odours from them threw around,

For damzels fit to decke their lovers bowres.
5 Her lips did smell lyke unto Gillyflowers,^o *carnations*
Her ruddy cheeks lyke unto Roses red;
Her snowy browes lyke budded Bellamoures,^o
Her lovely eyes like Pincks but newly spred,
Her goodly bosome lyke a Strawberry bed,
10 Her neck lyke to a bounch of Cullambynes;
Her brest lyke lillyes, ere theyr leaves be shed,
Her nipples lyke yong blossomd Jessemynes.^o *jasmines*
Such fragrant flowres doe give most odorous smell,
But her sweet odour did them all excell.

Hamlet Shakespeare

3. Shakespeare's tragedy is characterized by scenes of carnage and mutilations. Discuss how this is reflected in the play mentioned above. [30]

Paradise Lost Milton

4. Among other things, an epic features a grand setting that covers great nations, the world or the universe. It also deals with extraordinary characters. Discuss this statement in relation to the text mentioned above. [30]

Gulliver's Travels Swift

5. What do we learn of Gulliver's character as he travels through the different places mentioned in the text? [30]