

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION

2011

TITLE OF PAPER

COMPOSITION, WRITING AND STYLISTICS

COURSE NUMBER

ENG302/IDE-ENG302

TIME ALLOWED

2 HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Answer three (3) questions. Question one (1) is compulsory. Each question counts for a total of 20 marks.

Do not write any answer on the examination paper.

Write all your answers in the booklets provided.

This paper is not to be opened until permission has been given by the invigilator.

1. In an essay of about 300 words, distinguish between written and spoken language. Give appropriate examples. Explain why this distinction is important when you prepare yourself to write an essay. (20 marks)
2. Below is a magazine article and an reader's response to it. Discuss the purpose of the magazine article. Describe the purpose and attitude of the reader of the article. Is the article written for a particular audience? Explain. (20 marks)

*Churning out freaks*  
*Mini-cows*

"What is two feet tall, gives a gallon of milk a day and moos?" The answer: the Mexican mini-cow, heralded by some as a pioneer in a potential agricultural revolution.

The tiny animal is the result of more than five generations of selective breeding – which began with the six-foot tall, 2,000 pound Indo-Brazilian zebu. The mini-cow produces three to four litres of milk a day – compared with six litres produced by a full-sized zebu – and survives on a tenth of the grassland. Some agricultural experts view the cattle primarily as a protein source for rural families who have little grazing land and cannot afford bought milk and meat.

But others are more skeptical. They question just how long a freak cow, which so disproportionately produces high quantities of milk can be expected to live and how sickly it will be. The quality of milk is also questionable. How much more sensible would it be to redistribute the land more fairly so that poor families can keep normal, healthy sized cows? But that, it appears, would be a far more monstrous solution than can be dreamed up in a laboratory.

**Information from World Bank Development Forum**

**Cow freaks**

I was appalled at the *Update* on "mini-cows" (N1180). Have scientists nothing better to do than develop such freaks? Don't they know that the ideal "mini-cow" already exists? Living on rubbish, producing more nutritious milk than a cow, and less susceptible to disease, this "mini-cow" inhabits many third world countries. It is called the goat.

**Jacqueline Nebe**  
**Brussels, Belgium**

3. Discuss the structures of the following types of text:
  - a. narration (5 marks)
  - b. comparison and contrast (5 marks)
  - c. description (5 marks)
  - d. argumentation and the art of rhetoric (5 marks)
4. A. What is stylistics? What are the aims of stylistic analysis? (10 marks)

B. Explain the following terms. Do not forget to give an example of each concept (10 marks)

- a. metaphor
- b. simile
- c. tautology
- d. oxymoron
- e. hyperbole

5. "Use language clearly, vividly and appropriately" are guidelines given to all prospective writers. Explain why and how this is important to you as a writer. (20 marks)