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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION- DECEMBER 2011

COURSE TITLE: A STUDY OF DRAMA

COURSE CODE: ENG 305-IDE

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer two questions- One from each section. Each question carries 30 marks.
2. Do not repeat material or write about the same text at length more than once.
3. Candidates are not allowed to bring any reading material into the examination room.
4. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be rewarded and the contrary will be penalized.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A- THEORY**QUESTION ONE**

Compare and contrast a comedic and a tragic play plot structure in relation to the following elements of plot: exposition, complication, reversal and denouement. 30 marks

QUESTION TWO

'Tragic plays probe with high seriousness questions concerning the roles of humans in the universe'. Discuss the validity of this statement in relation to any tragic hero of a play studied in this course. 30 marks

SECTION B- PRACTICAL APPLICATION**QUESTION THREE****Wole Soyinka- *The Lion and the Jewel***

'The main theme of *The Lion and the Jewel* lies in the ways in which the lion hunts the jewel'.

- a) Identify the theme of this play and discuss the theatrical aspects used to advance it.

20 marks

- b) In your own view what is the playwright's aim of advancing the theme?

10 marks

QUESTION FOUR**William Shakespeare- *Othello***

Vengeance and (sexual) jealousy are but a few themes that Shakespeare brings up in *Othello*. Identify the character(s) through whom the above themes are advanced in the play as well as his/her motivations for the vengeance and (sexual) jealousy. 30 marks

QUESTION FIVE**Ola Rotimi- *The Gods Are Not to Blame***

'Coupled with his hamartia, the image of 'Odewale the liberator' plays a vital role in the tragic fall of the hero in the play'. Discuss. 30 marks