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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: A STUDY OF THE NOVEL

COURSE CODE: ENG 306 / IDE-ENG 306

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. Answer TWO questions, one from each section.
 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**

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SECTION A: THEORY

Answer One question from this section.

Question 1

- a) Identify and discuss the aspects which render "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" a heroic romance epic. [20]
- b) Discuss with the aid of examples the functions of such heroic poetry during the medieval period in Britain. [10]

Question 2

Focusing on the last episode of "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight", discuss:

- a) Pathetic fallacy and its relevance to the episode. [10]
- b) Symbolism and its relevance to the episode. [10]
- c) How the scene constitutes a reversal for Gawain. [10]

Question 3

Discuss the role played by Bertilak de Hautdesert in the refutation of the generally-held belief of the altruism of knights. [30]

SECTION B PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Answer One question from this section.

Question 4

According to the critic, Ian Watt (*The Rise of the Novel*, 1974:11), the realism novel "attempts to portray all the varieties of human experience" in that the novel seeks to achieve a "correspondence between life and literature". Focusing on well-selected scenes and characters from either Pamela or Great Expectations, discuss this claim. [30]

Question 5

- a) Do you think it is a bad thing for Pip to come into contact with Satis House? Support your response by highlighting the major outcomes of this contact. [20]
- b) Briefly discuss Dickens' intention for portraying this contact. [10]

Question 6

- a) Discuss the author's thematic intentions in the portrayal of men and women in either The Prodigal Husband or Place of Destiny. [30]