

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

JULY, 2013

TITLE OF PAPER : MODERN CRITICAL THEORY

COURSE CODE : ENG 304 / IDE-ENG 304

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer any TWO questions.
2. Each question carries 30 marks. The total marks for the examination is 60%.
3. Do not repeat material or write about the same text at length more than once.
4. Candidates are not allowed to bring any reading material into the examination room.
5. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be rewarded and the contrary will be penalised.

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

Question 1

Read the following Negritude poem below and answer the following question:

“I WILL PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME” by Leopold Senghor

I will pronounce your name, Naett, I will declaim you, Naett!
Naett, your name is mild like cinnamon, it is the fragrance in which the lemon grove sleeps
Naett, your name is the sugared clarity of blooming coffee trees
And it resembles the savannah, that blossoms forth under the masculine ardour of the midday sun.

Name of dew, fresher than shadows of tamarind,
Fresher even than the short dusk, when the heat of the day is silenced,
Naett, that is the dry tornado, the hard clap of lightning
Naett, coin of gold, shining coal, you my night, my sun!...
I am your hero, and now I have become your sorcerer, in order to pronounce your names.
Princess of Elissa, banished from Futa on the fateful day. [30]

Define Negritude and further identify three characteristic features of Negritude poetry presented in the above poem. [30]

Question 2

Discuss the contributions of Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* and Simon de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* to the development of feminist critical theory. [30]

Question 3

What are the outstanding characteristics of Modernism and Postmodernism and how are these features reflected in the literature that you are familiar with? Provide textual evidence to sustain your answer. [30]

Question 4

Discuss Samuel Beckett's play, *Waiting for Godot* or Kafka's short story, "The Metamorphosis", as an existentialist text. [30]

Question 5

Modernism and Postmodernism emerged as a scathing indictment of the two world wars and the inability of the social structures to resolve disputes amicably and foster peace. Argue convincingly with reference to texts you are familiar with to either substantiate or reject this claim. [30]