

# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER: **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

COURSE CODE: **ENG307 / IDE-ENG 307**

TIME ALLOWED: **TWO (2) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer two questions in all: Answer **Question ONE** and any other question.
2. Each question carries 30 marks. The total marks for the examination is 60.
3. Number your answers appropriately.
4. Close attention should be paid to content, organization, expression and mechanical accuracy in the essay type questions. Incorrect use of grammar and spelling will be penalized.
5. This paper is 2 pages long; cover page included.

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THE INVIGILATOR

**Question 1: (Compulsory question)**

“Research is a problem driven enterprise whose objective analysis of issues may lead to the establishment of theories, principles and generalizations. The Problem is the heart of research.”

- i) What is a research problem? [5]
- ii) Identify three sources of research problems and explain them. [5]
- iii) Describe three factors that tend to influence the selection of a research topic. [10]
- iv) Formulate a research problem that you would like to investigate. Show clearly that the problem is indeed discrepancy within an otherwise stable situation. [10]

**Question 2**

If you were to study how novelists treat gender issues in their works, justify a research method, research design and data collection instrument you would adopt. [30]

**Question 3**

Distinguish between the following elements of the research proposal:

- a) Background
- b) Statement of the problem
- c) Aims or purpose of the study
- d) Justification [30]

**Question 4**

You are interested in conducting a study on the “feminist perspective in Ama Ata Aidoo’s *Changes*.” Explain how you would carry out such a study. [30]