

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER : TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY STUDIES

COURSE CODE : ENG 408 / IDE-ENG 408

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

“*Heart of Darkness* projects the image of Africa as “the other world,” the antithesis of Europe and therefore of civilization, a place where man's vaunted intelligence and refinement are finally mocked by triumphant bestiality.” With clear evidence from the novella, demonstrate how Conrad presents Africa as the antithesis of Europe. [30]

Question 2

While Chinua Achebe in his paper, “English and the African Writer”, feels very comfortable writing African Literature in English, Obiajunwa Wali in his paper, “The Dead-end of African Literature”, is uncomfortable about the same. Compare and contrast Achebe and Wali’s views on the question of the African writer and the English Language in writing African Literature. [30]

Question 3

Caute (1972) says, “Fanon’s great merit is that he constantly relates the psychological predicament of the individual to the environment without losing sight of the individual” (p 434). Discuss with examples from texts you have read the relevance of Fanon’s insight presented in this statement. [30]

Question 4

Chikwenye Ogunyemi describes the concepts of womanism and feminism as different. Using any African Literature text, demonstrate the difference between these concepts. [30]

Question 5

According to Abiola Irele, “Negritude is a great human ideal, a reinsertion of the original vitality of a race into the great collective power of the human race.” Discuss any poem written by Leopold Senghor, David Diop, or Birago Diop to illustrate how negritude poets have influenced black people to retain their original vitality as members of the human race. [30]