

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2014

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ENG 404

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

- INSTRUCTION:
1. Answer TWO questions; one from each section.
 2. Each question carries 30 marks.
 3. Do not repeat material or write about the same text more than once.
 4. 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

SECTION A: NOVELS

So Long a Letter – Ba

1. In this novella Ba views polygamy and widowhood as areas where women have experienced the worst form of abuse in the Senegalese community. Using five examples from the text discuss this statement. [30]

The Red Head Khumalo - Bregin

2. In the earlier part of the novel Chelsea and Clare Parker are presented as individuals who subscribe to the apartheid idea of separate development. Use five examples to support this statement. [30]

SECTION B: DRAMA and POETRY

Song of a Goat - Clark

3. In what way does the Masseur fulfil the roles of family doctor, confessor and oracle? [30]

Crossings - Heywood

4. Analyse the poem below and comment on the mood the use of imagery creates. [30]

46 AN AFRICAN THUNDERSTORM

David Rubadiri (Malawi)

From the west
Clouds come hurrying with the wind
Turning
Sharply
5 Here and there
Like a plague of locusts
Whirling
Tossing up things on its tail
Like a madman chasing nothing.
10 Pregnant clouds
Ride stately on its back
Gathering to perch on hills
Like dark sinister wings;
The Wind whistles by
15 And trees bend to let it pass.

In the village
Screams of delighted children
Toss and turn
In the din of the whirling Wind.
20 Women –
Babies clinging on their backs –

Dart about
In and out
Madly
25 The Wind whirls by
Whilst trees bend to let it pass.
Clothes wave like tattered flags
Flying off
To expose dangling breasts
30 As jagged blinding flashes
Rumble, tremble, and crack
Amidst the smell of fired smoke
And the pelting march of the storm.