

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DECEMBER, 2014

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

African literature works that are classified as post-colonial are not necessarily post-independence. Do you agree? Use a sample post-colonial text and a post-independence literary work to support your arguments. [30]

Question 2

“The first and Second wave Feminism demanded a new political, social and economic dispensation.” Support this observation through a discussion of Virginia Woolf’s, Simone de Beauvoir’s, Betty Friedan’s, and Kate Millet’s feminist perceptions. [30]

Question 3

Discuss T.S. Elliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” and Tennessee Williams’ “This Property is Condemned” as typical Modern texts. [30]

Question 4

“Postmodernist writings subvert the foundations of the accepted modes of thought and experience in order to reveal the meaninglessness of human existence and the underlying “abyss” or “void” or “nothingness.” Support this statement through an analysis of any postmodern text you have studied. [30]

Question 5

Discuss the development of existentialism and distinguish the divergent views on it through an analysis of literary texts you have studied in the course. [30]