

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS – JULY, 2015

COURSE CODE:       ENG305 /IDE-ENG305  
COURSE NAME:       A Study of Drama  
TIME ALLOWED:      2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer 2 questions; one from each section.
2. All questions carry equal marks.
3. Do not repeat material or write about the same text more than once.
4. Make sure you observe rules of grammar and adhere to literary conventions to avoid loss of marks.
5. This paper is 3 pages long, cover page included.

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THE INVIGILATOR

## **SECTION A - THEORY**

### **Question 1**

“In a tragedy the audience is moved to pity and fear at the end of the play.” With close reference to a play you studied in the course, discuss the pros and cons of this statement. [30]

### **Question 2**

The Gods Are Not To Blame Ola Rotimi

“Although The Gods Are Not To Blame demonstrates the dramatic structure and thought of Greek tragedy, the use of proverbs renders the play uniquely African.” Discuss this assertion under the following headings:

- a) The play’s structure [10]
- b) Characterization [10]
- c) Use of proverbs. [10]

### **Question 3**

Othello Shakespeare

- a) Identify the incident which marks the climax in Othello. [5]
- b) Justify your choice by citing and discussing key incidents which mark the rising action and the falling action, along with the characters involved. [25]

## **SECTION B – CONTENT**

### **Question 4**

Death of a Salesman Arthur Miller

- a) Give a comparative evaluation of the values of Willy Loman and Charley, especially in raising their sons. [15]
- b) Discuss how the playwright dramatizes his indictment of Willy’s values while supporting Charley’s. [15]

### **Question 5**

The Lion and the Jewel Soyinka

“In the sequence, NIGHT, Baroka manages to seduce Sidi partly by playing on her vanity.”

With close reference to the play, discuss this statement. [30]

### **Question 6**

#### **The Gods Are Not To Blame**

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow it:

“My people, bear witness: the gods have lied. Now listen to this: Alaka here and I were one day working on my father’s farm when an old man whom I had long known as my father’s brother walked up to us. I lay flat in greeting, as custom says. But what did this man do? He looked down at me, looked at me...looked, then spat: ‘the butterfly thinks himself a bird’... Then he hissed and walked away. Spat again.”

- a) Focusing on the major turning points, discuss the unfolding of the dramatic action from this point onwards until Odewale’s discovery of his true identity. [20]
- b) What warnings does he ignore which only serves to further propel the dramatic action to its pre-determined tragic end? [10]

### **Question 7**

#### **Nongogo Athol Fugard**

In what way does Queenie’s shebeen epitomize her moral and emotional states before and after her encounter with Johnny? Discuss with the aid of illustrations. [30]

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