

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION, MAY, 2015

TITLE OF PAPER : TOPICS IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY STUDIES

COURSE CODE : IDE-ENG 408

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This paper is divided into **two sections**: Section A: Language & Linguistics and Section B: Literature
2. Answer **THREE** questions in all. Answer **one** question from **section A** and **one** from **section B**. Choose the third question **either** from section A or B.
3. Each question carries 20 marks. The total marks for the examination is 60%.
4. Your answer for each question should not exceed three pages long.
5. Do not repeat material or write about the same text at length more than once.
6. Candidates are not allowed to bring any reading material into the examination room.
7. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be rewarded and the contrary will be penalised.
8. **Each section must be answered in its own answer booklet.**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

SECTION A: LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

Question 1

According to Bock and Mheta (2003: 374), “identities are performed in the context of interaction with other people. In other words, for someone to perform an identity, they need an audience or an interlocutor who will accept or reject their assumed identity.”

Discuss in detail the importance of **language** and **context** in the performance of identity. Use relevant examples to illustrate your answer. [20]

Question 2

Some grammarians analyse the structure of the Verb Phrase (VP) as consisting of the auxiliary system plus the main verb; whereas others analyse it as consisting of the verb and all its complements (predicate phrase). Discuss in detail these two analyses, and explain how they can be viewed as complementing each other rather than competing analyses. [20]

SECTION B: LITERATURE

Question 1

Describe the main beliefs of negritude movement and illustrate how they have been captured in two negritude poems studied in the course. [20]

Question 2

Using at least three relevant texts compare and contrast the Negritude movement’s response to racial oppression in Francophone literature with that of any Anglophone writer. [20]

Question 3

“It is apparent that Chinua Achebe and Obiajunwa Wali did not agree on the issue of using English in writing African literature.” Examine their contentions and suggest how the views of these two great scholars may be consolidated. [20]

Question 4

How does Conrad, in *Heart of Darkness*, contrast the River Thames in London with the River Congo in Africa? Discuss Achebe’s reaction on this comparison. [20]