

# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

### SUPPLEMENTARY SEMESTER EXAMINATION, JULY, 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 & LINGUISTICS**

**Question 1**

Read the following extract from Geoffrey Chaucer's The Miller's Tale and answer the questions that follow. NB: translations are written in italics.

"Now John," quod Nicholas, "I wol nat lye;

*Now John, said Nicholas, I will not lie;*

As I have looked in the moone bright,

*As I have looked in the moon bright,*

That now a Monday next, at quarter nyght,

*That now a Monday next, at quarter night*

Shall falle a reyn, and that was so wilde and wood

*Shall fall a rain, and that was so wild and mad*

That half so greet was nevere Noes flood.

*That half so great was never Noah's flood.*

This world," he seyde, "in lasse than an hour

*This world, he said, in less than an hour*

Shal al be dreynt, so hidous is the shour.

*Shall all be drowned, so hideous is the shower*

Thus shal mankynde drenche, and lese hir lyf."

*Thus shall mankind drown, and lose his life.*

- (a) Name the period in the history of the English language on which the extract was written. [2 marks]
- (b) Rewrite the extract in Contemporary English. [5 marks]
- (c) In each of the areas mentioned below, identify and explain two of the changes that occurred as the English of that period changed into Modern/ Contemporary English. Take your examples from the extract.
- (i) Spelling [4 marks]
- (ii) Syntax [4 marks]
- (d) Distinguish between Modern English and Contemporary English. [2 marks]
- (e) Name one of the popular literary works of the Old English period and one from the early Modern English period. [2 marks]
- (f) What is the other name for Old English? [1 mark]

**[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]**

## Question 2

Explain how information on morphology and semantics can be used as word-learning strategies.

**[20 MARKS]**

## SECTION B: LITERATURE

### Question 1

Read the following poem and answer the question(s) that follow it:

#### I WILL PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME: By Leopold Senghor

I will pronounce your name, Naett, I will declaim you, Naett!  
Naett, your name is mild like cinnamon, it is the fragrance in which the lemon grove sleeps  
Naett, your name is the sugared clarity of blooming coffee trees  
And it resembles the savannah, that blossoms forth under the masculine ardour of the midday sun  
Name of dew, fresher than shadows of tamarind,  
Fresher even than the short dusk, when the heat of the day is silenced,  
Naett, that is the dry tornado, the hard clap of lightning  
Naett, coin of gold, shining coal, you my night, my sun!...  
I am you hero, and now I have become your sorcerer, in order to pronounce your names.  
Princess of Elissa, banished from Futa on the fateful day.

### Questions

- a) Discuss the Genesis of the Negritude Movement. (10)
  - b) What are the Negritude sensibilities that Senghor raises in this poem? (10)
- [20]

### Question 2

“While Lawino in *Song of Lawino* laments the alienation of her husband from the African culture, she invokes Africans to rediscover their identity, culture and integrity.” Illustrate this view with evidence from the text. [20]

### Question 3

“The question, what is African Literature, was not exhaustively addressed at the conference of African Writers of English Expression held at Makerere University in June 1962.” Discuss the differing views projected by some of the delegates of that conference. [20]

### Question 4

How does Conrad, in *Heart of Darkness*, use the two women, Kurtz’s intended and mistress, to draw their kinship to Europe and Africa, respectively? [20]