

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE  
FINAL EXAMINATION 2016

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: ENG 404/IDE-ENG 404

TIME ALLOWED: **TWO** HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer **TWO** questions, one from each section.
2. Each question carries 30 marks.
3. Do not repeat or write about the same text at length more than once.
4. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be taken into account.

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

So long a Letter – Ba

1. Through Ramatoulaye, Ba suggests that the unequal treatment of male and female children in her community is the root cause of women's subordination. How does she seek to negate this through the way she raises her children? [30]

The Red Haired Khumalo – Bregin

The key sliding into the lock had a distinctly guilty sound, edging its way as if on tip-toe, seeming to hold its breath before the final bold click into place. Chelsea sat in the darkened living room, her arms folded grimly across her chest, her eyes fixed on the luminous face of the wall-clock. She heard with satisfaction the loud, incriminating creak of the front door swinging back on its hinges; a figure glided in. It paused on the threshold to ease its shoes off and advanced on stealthy feet across the hall.

"Don't bother trying to be quiet," said Chelsea pointedly. "I am up."

She clicked on the light with a flush. Her mother stood framed like a thief in a sudden glare, an expression of startled dismay on a face.

"Chelsea! What are you doing up? Why aren't you in bed? It is almost midnight!"

"It's half past one, actually," Chelsea said accusingly.

Her mother's eyes flew guiltily to the wall-clock.

2. Read the extract above and examine Berth's behaviour against the backdrop of some of the recently repealed apartheid laws. [30]

SECTION B

Song of a goat - Clark

3. Using three examples, discuss any features of Greek Classical tragedy that are reflected in the play. [30]

Crossings – Heywood

4. Among other things negritude poets seek to highlight the centrality of the ancestral world and ritual in their writing. Using two poems you have studied in the course discuss this statement. [30]