

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

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SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION  
JULY 2017

- TITLE OF PAPER:           **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY OF  
ENGLISH LITERATURE**
- COURSE CODE:           **IDE-ENG 104**
- TIME ALLOWED:           **2 HOURS**
- INSTRUCTIONS:           **1. ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. YOUR ANSWERS SHOULD NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES  
EACH**
- 3. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL, OR WRITE ABOUT THE  
SAME LITERARY TEXT MORE THAN ONCE**
- 4. CORRECT USE OF ENGLISH AND LITERARY  
CONVENTIONS WILL BE REWARDED, AND THE REVERSE  
WILL BE PENALISED**

This paper should not be opened until permission has been granted by the invigilator.

QUESTION 1      *The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer*

Choose three (3) characters from the list below and discuss their *satirical* presentation by Chaucer in “The General Prologue.”

- a. The Prioress
- b. The Monk
- c. The Pardoner
- d. The Friar
- e. The Summoner

[30]

QUESTION 2      *“The Nun’s Priest’s Tale” by Geoffrey Chaucer*

Discuss “The Nun’s Priest’s Tale” as a mock court romance.

[30]

QUESTION 3      *Spenser’s and Sidney’s sonnets*

Compare and contrast the manner in which the pursuit of love is depicted in Edmund Spenser’s Amoretti Sonnets & Philip Sidney’s Astrophil and Stella.

[30]

QUESTION 4      *Hamlet by William Shakespeare*

Hamlet deals with thought versus action; discuss how his inaction contributes to death and suffering in the play?

[30]

QUESTION 5      *Paradise Lost by John Milton*

How is John Milton in Paradise Lost justifying the ways of God?

[30]