

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
FINAL EXAMINATION 2017

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE: 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 rewarded and the reverse will be penalised.

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

SECTION A: Novel

1. Through her portrayal of Ramatoulaye in So Long a Letter, Ba does not denigrate the Senegalese culture but is critical of its excesses. Discuss. [30]

“When it comes to being racist, perhaps we are all a bit guilty.” Using events and circumstances in The Red Haired Khumalo, discuss this statement. [30]

2. Magical realist writers immerse their fiction in local beliefs, symbols and philosophies. Use three examples from the novel, The Bird of Heaven to discuss this view. [30]

SECTION B: Drama and Poetry.

3. Clark is known more as a poet than a dramatist. How is this reflected in some of the techniques he uses in the play Song of a Goat?

Crossings - Heywood

4. The imagery in African poetry inevitably touches on the immediate environment as well as beliefs and superstitions of the community. Basing your answer on any two poems you have studied discuss this view. [30]