

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

RESIT/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION,

OCTOBER, 2021

TITLE OF PAPER : ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICAN LITERATURE

COURSE CODE : ENG412 / IDE-ENG 404

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This paper is divided into **two sections**: Section A: Poetry and Drama, Section B: Fiction
2. Answer **TWO (2)** questions in all. Answer **one (1)** question from each section
3. Each question carries 30 marks. The total mark for the examination is 60%.
4. Do not repeat material or write about the same text at length more than once.
5. Candidates are not allowed to bring any reading material into the examination room.
6. Correct use of English and literary conventions will be rewarded and the contrary will be penalised.

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

Section A: Poetry and Drama

Question 1

Discuss how Orukorere's apparitions or visions of a he goat, burning house, and a snake are ironic to the plights of some members of her family?

Question 2

Read the poems below and answer the questions that follow.

"THE DRY SEASON" by Kwesi Brew (Ghana)

The year is withering; the wind
Blows down the leaves;
Men stand under eaves
And overhear the secrets
5 Of the cold dry wind,
Of the half-bare trees.

The grasses are tall and tinted,
Straw-gold hues of dryness,
And the contradicting awryness,
10 Of the dusty roads a-scatter
With pools of colourful leaves
With ghosts of the dreaming year.

And soon, Soon the fires
The fires will begin to burn,
15 The hawk will flutter and turn
On its wings and swoop for the mouse
The dogs will run for the hare,
The hare for its little life.

"SEASON" by Wole Soyinka (Nigeria)

Rust is ripeness, rust,
And the wilted com-plume;
Pollen is mating-time when swallows
Weave a dance
5 Of feathered arrows
Thread com-stalks in winged
Streaks of light. And, we loved to hear
Spliced phrases of the wind, to hear

- 10 Rasps in the field, where com-leaves
Pierce like bamboo slivers.
- Now, gamblers we
Awaiting rust on tassels, draw
Long shadows from the dusk, wreath
Dry thatch in wood-smoke. Laden stalks
- 15 Ride the germ's decay - we await
The promise of the rust.

Line 8. spliced: joined by weaving together, without a knot

Questions

- i. Compare the themes of the two poems paying special attention to the use of imagery. [15]
- ii. What is the tone of the poems? [8]
- iii. What mood is conveyed in these poems? [7]

Section B: Fiction

Question 3

After the death of her husband, Modou, Ramatoulaye turns down marriage offers. Using three examples, discuss the pros and cons of her refusal. [30]

Question 4

“Replacing Apartheid laws with democratic and free society laws is comparatively an easier enterprise for New South Africa than dealing with deep-seated prejudice.” How is this illustrated in Elana Bregin’s *The Red Haired Khumalo*? [30]