

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND  
PLANNING

MAIN EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2018  
B.Sc. II

TITLE OF PAPER : WATER RESOURCES

COURSE NUMBER : GEP 232

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : SECTION A IS COMPULSORY  
ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM  
SECTION B. ILLUSTRATE YOUR ANSWERS  
WITH APPROPRIATE DIAGRAMS AND SHOW  
YOUR WORKING IN ALL CALCULATIONS

MARKS ALLOCATED : QUESTION ONE CARRIES 40 MARKS AND THE  
OTHER QUESTIONS CARRY 30 MARKS EACH

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

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION**

**Question 1**

- a) What are the pathways by which precipitation falling onto the earth surface is dispersed into the hydrologic cycle? (20 marks)
  - b) Discuss any two (2) types of precipitation. (20 marks)
- (40 marks)**

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS**

**Question 2**

- a) Explain the factors influencing the runoff in a drainage basin. (15 marks)
  - b) Describe the assumptions of the unit hydrograph and its practical application. (15 marks)
- (30 marks)**

**Question 3**

Explain three (3) methods used in measuring flow discharge. (30 marks)

**Question 4**

Estimate the net radiation, over an open water surface, of Swaziland for the month of December, given the minimum and maximum temperatures of 25 and 37.5°C, respectively. In this particular day, you are told that the actual number of sunshine hours were 10 and the relative humidity was 60%. The shortwave radiation is given by  $(0.25 + 0.5 n/N)R_a$ .

**(30 marks)**

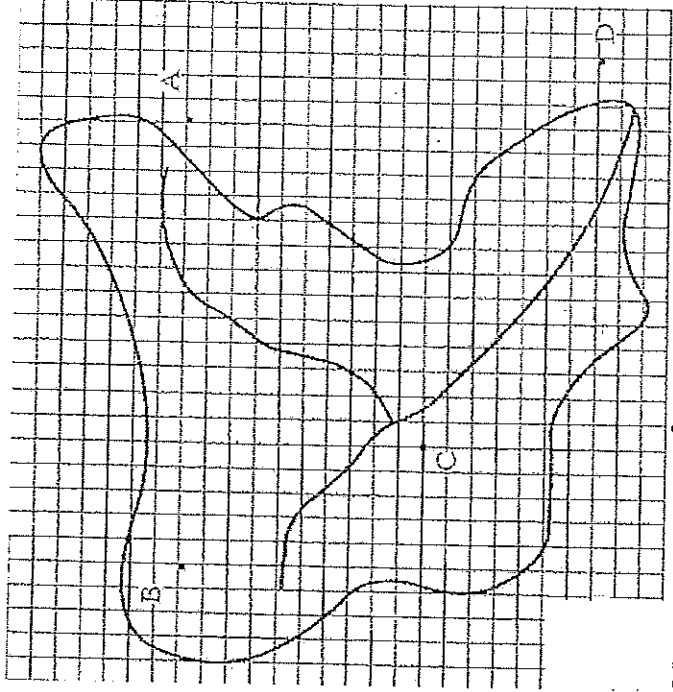
**Question 5**

A small watershed at Eswatini has 4 rainfall gauges as located in Figure 1. Total rainfall recorded at each gauge during a storm event is listed in Table 1. Compute the mean areal rainfall for this storm using a) arithmetic mean and b) Thiessen method.

**(30 marks)**

Table 1. Total rainfall recorded at each gauge

Gauge	Rainfall (mm)
A	82.8
B	74.2
C	76.5
D	77.5



25 squares = 2.6 km<sup>2</sup>

Figure 1. A small watershed at Eswatini

### ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

$$R_n = (1 - r)R_S - R_{nL} \quad (1)$$

$$R_{nL} = \sigma \frac{(273 + T_{min})^4 + (273 + T_{max})^4}{2} (0.34 - 0.139\sqrt{e_d})(0.1 + 0.9n/N) \quad (2)$$

$$\sigma = 5.6745 \times 10^{-8}$$

Table 1. Saturation vapour pressure ( $e_o(T)$ ) for different temperatures (T)

$$e^o(T) = 0.6108 \exp\left[\frac{17.27 T}{T + 237.3}\right]$$

T °C	$e_s$ kPa	T °C	$e^o(T)$ kPa	T °C	$e^o(T)$ kPa	T °C	$e_s$ kPa
1.0	0.657	13.0	1.498	25.0	3.168	37.0	6.275
1.5	0.691	13.5	1.547	25.5	3.263	37.5	6.448
2.0	0.706	14.0	1.599	26.0	3.361	38.0	6.625
2.5	0.731	14.5	1.651	26.5	3.462	38.5	6.806
3.0	0.758	15.0	1.705	27.0	3.565	39.0	6.991
3.5	0.785	15.5	1.761	27.5	3.671	39.5	7.181
4.0	0.813	16.0	1.818	28.0	3.780	40.0	7.376
4.5	0.842	16.5	1.877	28.5	3.891	40.5	7.574
5.0	0.872	17.0	1.938	29.0	4.008	41.0	7.778
5.5	0.903	17.5	2.000	29.5	4.123	41.5	7.986
6.0	0.935	18.0	2.064	30.0	4.243	42.0	8.199
6.5	0.968	18.5	2.130	30.5	4.366	42.5	8.417
7.0	1.002	19.0	2.197	31.0	4.493	43.0	8.640
7.5	1.037	19.5	2.267	31.5	4.622	43.5	8.867
8.0	1.073	20.0	2.338	32.0	4.755	44.0	9.101
8.5	1.110	20.5	2.412	32.5	4.891	44.5	9.339
9.0	1.148	21.0	2.487	33.0	5.030	45.0	9.582
9.5	1.187	21.5	2.564	33.5	5.173	45.5	9.832
10.0	1.228	22.0	2.644	34.0	5.319	46.0	10.086
10.5	1.270	22.5	2.726	34.5	5.469	46.5	10.347
11.0	1.313	23.0	2.809	35.0	5.623	47.0	10.613
11.5	1.357	23.5	2.896	35.5	5.780	47.5	10.885
12.0	1.403	24.0	2.984	36.0	5.941	48.0	11.163
12.5	1.449	24.5	3.075	36.5	6.106	48.5	11.447

