

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION
DECEMBER - 2017

COURSE TITLE : INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THEORY

COURSE CODE : ENG 212 / ENG223

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer any **TWO** questions.
2. Each question carries 30 marks. The total marks for the examination is 60%.
3. Do not repeat material or write about the same text at length more than once.
4. Candidates are not allowed to bring any reading material into the examination room.
5. 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.

QUESTION 1

Both Plato and Aristotle are mimetic theorists. Explain what that means and further discuss how Aristotle successfully opposed Plato's idea of Literature?

[30]

QUESTION 2

From his writings, it is apparent that Plato first loved and then hated literature. With reference to his views in *Phaedrus*, *Ion* and *The Republic* comment on this statement.

[30]

QUESTION 3

Show the connection between Marxist criticism with Ngugi wa Thiong'o's theory of African literature expressed in his paper, "Literature and Society: the Politics of the Canon" (1973).

[30]

QUESTION 4

Illustrate the connection between social functional theory and Liz Gunner's theory of oral literature in her paper, "Africa and Orality".

[30]

QUESTION 5

Ruth Finnegan says, "The concept of oral literature is an unfamiliar one to most people brought up in cultures which, like those of contemporary Europe" (p.2). Using a specific text of your choice as an example, discuss the characteristics of oral literature that makes it depart from written literature.

[30]

QUESTION 6

Define Negritude. What is Leopold Senghor's idea about negritude? How does he demonstrate his idea in African literature?

[30]