

ENG2603

May/June 2017

**COLONIAL AND POSTCOLONIAL
AFRICAN LITERATURES**

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINERS

FIRST

MS ZNL KHANYILE
PROF LJ RAFAPA
PROF S MAITHUFIDR MJ LENTO
PROF MT VAMBE
PROF J MURRAY

SECOND

Closed book examination

This examination question paper remains the property of the University of South Africa and may not be removed from the examination venue

The examination question paper consists of 5 pages

The examination paper is composed of two sections, Section A and Section B. Each section will contain two questions. You must answer ONE question from SECTION A and ONE question from SECTION B. You may NOT answer two questions from the same section. Please be clear on this matter. ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION

[TURN OVER]

SECTION A

You must answer ONE question from this section

Question 1 Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*

Walter (mumbling) We one group of men tied to a race of women with small minds (Page 19)

Walter Who the hell told you you had to be a doctor? If you so crazy bout messing 'round with sick people – then go be a nurse like other women – or just get married and be quiet (Page 22)

Write a well-argued essay in which you agree or disagree with a claim that Hansberry represents women as inferior and submissive to men

OR

Question 2 Fred Khumalo, *Seven Steps to Heaven*

“*Seven Steps to Heaven* is a work of art in which the historical and the literary narratives affirm, complement as well as interrogate the truths of their stories” Discuss the ways in which the author achieves this

TOTAL SECTION A: 50

[TURN OVER]

SECTION B

You must answer ONE question from this section

Question 3 Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*

The representation of the oppression of women in the novel *Nervous Conditions* helps us understand Tambu's cold attitude towards her brother Nhamo. Discuss this statement touching on major incidents in Tambu's development that may mitigate her reaction to her brother's death.

OR

Question 4 Michael Chapman, *The New Century of South African Poetry*

Carefully read the poem "Lo Lull" by Wopko Jensma where the speaker confronts his immediate, problematic and desperate circumstances.

Then write a well-organized essay in which you explore the theme of despair and how the poet/speaker conveys his feelings and frustration through the use of figurative language and other poetic devices.

Lo Lull

I

I am a dirty little room

with spiders in the corner of my skull

my mouth a dark pit

into which human droppings disappear

the speck of rust in my heart worries me

[TURN OVER]

many people breathe in and out of me

i am at ease with the world

only the speck of rust worries me

2

they stripped me naked

now they let me prowl

but they don't laugh

i feel no shame, no cold

why are they staring

they wanted me naked

i toss my head off

i cry with agony

to make them laugh

but they only stare

i get it –

i must be their judge

3

i look at myself sleeping

i look at myself going for a piss

i look at myself coming back to bed

i look at myself having a nightmare

[TURN OVER]

i look at myself getting up
i look at myself shaving
i look at myself going off to work
i keep looking at myself
not knowing that I am being watched

4

first paint my head in all detail
then pluck the eyes out

then cut the ears off
then strip off the lips
then smash the teeth out
then burn the hair off
then peel off the skin
then the nose, the tongue
first paint my skull in all detail

TOTAL SECTION B: 50
TOTAL: 100