

**ENG2603**

October/November 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

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**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 4 pages

The examination paper is composed of two sections, Section A and Section B. Each section contains 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*

Ruth They said Saturday and this is just Friday and I hopes to God you ain't going to get up there first thing this morning and start talking to me 'bout no money — 'cause I 'bout don't want to hear it" (p 11)

In a well-argued essay, discuss how gender stereotypes put pressure on Walter as the man of the house

(50 marks)

**OR**

Question 2 Fred Khumalo, *Seven Steps to Heaven*

Critically explore the ideological implications of the marginalisation of female characters in *Seven Steps to Heaven*

(50 marks)

**SECTION B**

You must answer ONE question from this section

Question 3 Tsitsi Dangarembga, *Nervous Conditions*

The traditional setting of Tambu's home differs from the missionary setting of Babamukuru's household. Discuss how the two different locales help us understand a number of character clashes between members of the two families occupying them.

(50 marks)

**OR**

[TURN OVER]

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

Injustice, solitude and religion are major themes illustrated in the poem 'Letter to Martha, 4' by Dennis Brutus. In your analysis explore these themes, depicting how the speaker confronts challenges in order to maintain mental stability and achieve spiritual well-being.

**Letter to Martha, 4**

**By Dennis Brutus**

Particularly in a single cell,  
but even in the sections  
the religious sense asserts itself,

perhaps a childhood habit of nightly prayers  
the accessibility of Bibles,  
or awareness of the proximity of death

and, of course, it is a currency –  
pietistic expressions can purchase favours  
and it is a way of suggesting reformation  
(which can procure promotion),

and the resort of the weak  
is to invoke divine revenge  
against a rampaging injustice,

**[TURN OVER]**