

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

ECL 310

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS
JUNE 2025

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Time: 3 HOURS
Subject: ENGLISH 3
Marks: 100

This paper consists of 4 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners

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TBD

Instructions on following page

Instructions: this paper is divided into three sections

Answer

1. One question from Section A (Neoclassical to Romantic Poetry)
and
2. One question from Section B (Literature of the African Diaspora)
and
3. All questions from Section C (Linguistics)

PLEASE ANSWER SECTION C (LINGUISTICS) IN A SEPARATE EXAM ANSWER BOOK

SECTION A NEOCLASSICAL TO ROMANTIC LITERATURE

Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*

Write an essay on one of the following questions:

EITHER

Question A.1

Analyse the following extract from *A Voyage to Lilliput*, using it to show how Swift is actually making fun of British political processes while seeming to be giving an unbiased perspective on strange practices in distant lands.

The emperor had a mind one day to entertain me with several of the country shows, wherein they exceed all nations I have known, both for dexterity and magnificence. I was diverted with none so much as that of the rope-dancers, performed upon a slender white thread, extended about two feet, and twelve inches from the ground. Upon which I shall desire liberty, with the reader's patience, to enlarge a little.

This diversion is only practised by those persons who are candidates for great employments, and high favour at court. They are trained in this art from their youth, and are not always of noble birth, or liberal education. When a great office is vacant, either by death or disgrace (which often happens,) five or six of those candidates petition the emperor to entertain his majesty and the court with a dance on the rope; and whoever jumps the highest, without falling, succeeds in the office. Very often the chief ministers themselves are commanded to show their skill, and to convince the emperor that they have not lost their faculty. Flimnap, the treasurer, is allowed to cut a caper on the straight rope, at least an inch higher than any other lord in the whole empire. I have seen him do the summerset several times together, upon a trencher fixed on a rope which is no thicker than a common packthread in England. My friend Reldresal, principal secretary for private affairs, is, in my opinion, if I am not partial, the second after the treasurer; the rest of the great officers are much upon a par.

These diversions are often attended with fatal accidents, whereof great numbers are on record. I myself have seen two or three candidates break a limb. But the danger is much greater, when the ministers themselves are commanded to show their dexterity; for, by contending to excel themselves and their fellows, they strain so far that there is hardly one of them who has not received a fall, and some of them two or three.

OR

Question A.2.

Discuss, with examples, the various ways in which Swift attempts to give Gulliver's narrative credibility. (Particularly note those cases where these efforts have ironic implications, as in Gulliver's "vindication of the reputation of an excellent lady" of Lilliput.)

SECTION B THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Write an essay on the following question:

Question B.1.

Discuss Equiano's claim that he is 'neither a saint, a hero nor a tyrant'. What elements of his narrative illustrate and complicate this self-description?

SECTION C: LINGUISTICS

NOTE: PLEASE COMPLETE SECTION C IN A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK

Answer all of the following questions:

Question 1

- (a) Discuss the interconnections among language, culture, social class and gender in South Africa. (50 marks)
- (b)

Question 2

2. Critically analyse the role of the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Higher Education and Training concerning the following concepts in South Africa:

- a) Multilingualism
- b) Marginalised languages (50 marks)

TOTAL: 100
