UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

ECL 210E

FIRST SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION
JUNE 2023

Time: 3 HOURS **Marks: 100**

ENGLISH TWO

There are FOUR pages in the examination paper.

INTERNAL EXAMINERS:

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Instructions

1. **Answer THREE Questions in total. Answer ONE Question from Section A; ONE Question from Section B and ONE question from Section C.**
2. **Answer the Questions in THREE Separate Answer Booklets.**

SECTION A: LINGUISTICS

Answer ALL questions in this section.

Question 1

Briefly show your understanding of sociolinguistics by explaining each of the following: (5)

a) Language Death
b) Code switching
c) Language maintenance
d) Slang
e) Expanding circle

Question 2

Is there a difference between tsotsitaal and slang? Discuss this statement with relevant examples in your first language. NB Please write English glosses if your first language is not English. (10)

Question 3

What do you understand by code-switching as a marked choices and code switching as unmarked choice. (10)

25 marks

SECTION B: AFRICAN FICTION

There are TWO questions in this section. Answer ONLY ONE question.

A Grain of Wheat

1. Even though the events in *A Grain of Wheat* are based on four days before Uhuru, the central theme is betrayal and not so much about celebration. Use examples from the text to discuss this theme.

OR

God's Bits of Wood

2. Write an essay in which you critically discuss Sembene Ousmane's representation of women in his novel, *God's Bits of Wood.*

100 marks

SECTION C: AFRICAN POETRY

There are TWO questions in this section. Answer ONLY ONE question.

Question 1

In the Shadow of Signal Hill by Essop Patel

in the howling wind
by the murky waters
of the sea
children of colour
gather shells
and hold them to their ears
and listen to the lamentations of slaves
in the dungeon of death

in the howling wind
by the murky waters
of the sea
sons of langa
gather at the ruins of district six
and sharpen the spears of the night
and the heroes from the island urge
go towards the fiery dawn ...

Discuss how Essop Patel uses style and language (choice of words) in the poem *In the Shadow of Signal Hill* to show to reflect the period in which it was written and bring out the themes.

OR

QUESTION 2

Africa by David Diop

Africa my Africa
Africa of proud warriors in ancestral savannahs
Africa of whom my grandmother sings
On the banks of the distant river
I have never known you
But your blood flows in my veins
Your beautiful black blood that irrigates the fields
The blood of your sweat
The sweat of your work
The work of your slavery
Africa, tell me Africa
Is this your back that is unbent
This back that never breaks under the weight of humiliation
This back trembling with red scars
And saying no to the whip under the midday sun
But a grave voice answers me
Impetuous child that tree, young and strong
That tree over there
Splendidly alone amidst white and faded flowers
That is your Africa springing up anew
springing up patiently, obstinately
Whose fruit bit by bit acquires

By direct reference to David Diop's poem *Africa*, discuss how the poet uses language (words and phrases) to present the theme of oppression.

100 marks

END OF EXAMINATION