FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

2nd SEMESTER 2019

ASSIGNMENT 1

SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE

(SAL721S)
Assignment 1

Dear Student

Thank you for submitting your first assignment. It was our pleasure to mark it. If your marks are good, I hope this will motivate you to work even harder. If you are disappointed with your marks, please do not give up now, simply work harder. At the same time, we would like to remind you that by doing your assignment on your own, and not copying from the study guide will be to your benefit in the coming exams. Remember to read thoroughly through the questions before answering and ensure that you have attended to all the questions given. Make use of the recommended works so that you broaden your knowledge. You should cite all works used in your texts (in-text reference). Many of you simply copied from the internet without summarising your points and not quoting your sources. Authors cited in your texts should all appear in the reference list. Do not forget to align your paragraphs so that all sentences are of equal length. Responses should be presented in well-structured paragraphs. Adhere to the stated requirements of the assignment in terms of line spacing, font size and type. Responses should be in line with the number of marks allocated per question. Use this opportunity to revise the questions in Assignment 1 with the memorandum in hand. Give attention to the remarks of the marker-tutor in your assignment book. If there is anything that you are still unsure of, do not hesitate to contact the marker-tutor.

All the best!

Regards,

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Course Name: SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE
Course Code: SAL721S
Department: COMMUNICATION
Course Duration: SEMESTER 2
NQF Level and Credit: LEVEL 7, 14 CREDITS

Your marker-tutor for SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE
The Namibia University of Science and Technology has appointed ANNELI NGHIKEMBUA as marker-tutor for SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE
ANNELI NGHIKEMBUA will be at your service, should you experience any problems with your studies or with the assignments. Contact details are as follows:
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Your moderator for SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE
The Namibia University of Science and Technology has appointed Dr Nauseb as the moderator for SOUTHERN AFRICAN LITERATURE
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Assignment 1 MEMO  [45 Marks]

Section A  [25 Marks]

IDENTITY AND IDENTITY CRISIS IN POSTCOLONIAL LITERATURE

Question 1: Use your own words as far as possible.

1.1) With reference to the article above, what is identity in post-colonialism? [15]

Points to consider:

➢ A central theme in postcolonialism in reference to questioning of who an individual/community is in the face of colonialism.
➢ The individual/group tries to understand self/community/nation
➢ Self-identity of him/herself in face of hardship imposed upon by colonisers
➢ Searching for understanding in the face of colonialism: displacement (e.g. land, culture (hybridity/loss of culture), language
➢ Rebuilding new self/restoration, bringing voice
➢ An attempt to decolonize/free oneself/community from chains of imperial powers

1.2) Name the two forms of postcolonial identity and state what they entail. [5]

➢ Cultural elements: entails language, hybridity, self and otherness [2.5]

➢ Spatial elements: land and identity construction or restoration [2.5]

1.3) Why is identity an issue in post-colonialism? / What does the quest for identity seeks to address? [5]

➢ Given the situation in which the colonised lived (racial tension, discrimination, slavery etc.) an individual or community seeks to reconstruct or restore their identity (want to restore, get their identity (land etc.).
They want to decolonize

Free themselves

Claim back their dignity.

Section B [20 Marks]

Question 1

1.1) Briefly discuss what postcolonial literature is? [5]

- Postcolonial literature is presumed to be the literature emanating from countries that were colonised, mainly by European countries.

- Postcolonial literature often focuses on race relations and the effects of racism and usually indicts white and/or colonial societies.

- Works of literature that are defined as postcolonial often record racism or a history of genocide, including slavery, apartheid, and the mass extinction of people.

- These texts are often seen as an important way to articulate and negotiate communication between writers who define themselves as postcolonial and critics who are not part of that experience.

1.2) Briefly discuss why post-colonial writers write in the language of their colonisers. What message do they intend to put across? [15]

- Apart from the use of African languages in writing, postcolonial writers are using European languages to express African experiences.

- Language such as English carries the weight of African pain and suffering.

- The colonised would like to inform the world more especially the coloniser of their endurance in the face of colonialism.
➢ Indigenous languages were suppressed, the history that the languages of the colonised carried was thrown under the bus.

➢ Africans needed to publish at the time, and it was the colonised who had publishing companies, thus need to write in English.

➢ The natives were forbidden to speak their mother tongues.

➢ Many writers in their books recall they were demoted, humiliated, or even beaten for speaking their native language in colonial schools.

END OF ASSIGNMENT 1