



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
B.A. (HONOURS) IN ENGLISH
AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 4
FINAL EXAMINATION - March 2024
POETRY - LEU4506/LSU2206
DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 30. 03. 2024 TIME: 01.30 pm. - 04.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION 01 FROM PART (A) AND ANY TWO (02) QUESTIONS
FROM PART B.

Part A

1) Identify two (02) of the following extracts and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

- i) "Have known the evenings, mornings, afternoons,
I have measured out my life with coffee spoons;"
- ii) "I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core."
- iii) "The doctor put him in the dark of ether.
He lay and puffed his lips out with his breath.
And then—the watcher at his pulse took fright.
No one believed. They listened at his heart.
Little—less—nothing!—and that ended it.
No more to build on there. And they, since they
Were not the one dead, turned to their affairs."

(40 marks)

Part B

- 2) Do you think Larkin paints a gloomy, pessimistic picture of the world around him in his poems? Take THREE poems of Larkin you have studied and analyze.
- 3) In his epic poem *The Waste Land*, Eliot locates Eastern thoughts/ sentiments as a potential corrective influence upon the perceived ills of the Western civilization. Extract some thoughts that could be perceived as “Eastern” from the poem and examine this statement.
- 4) How does W.B. Yeats express his concerns as a father in his poem “A Prayer for my Daughter”?
- 5) “Robert Frost’s poetry engages with the complexities of human relationships, societal expectations, and the individual’s struggle with self-discovery”. Comment on the above statement with reference to THREE poems you have studied in class.

(60 marks)