

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.A. (HONOURS)/B.A. IN ENGLISH

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

FINAL EXAMINATION

POETRY

DURATION

LEVEL 4

January 2025

LEU4506/LSU2206

THREE HOURS (03 hours)



052

DATE: 05. 01. 2025

TIME: 09.30 am. - 12.30pm.

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) What are the roots that clutch, what branches grow
Out of this stony rubbish?
- ii) Or, after dark, will dubious women come
To make their children touch a particular stone;
- iii) My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year
- iv) Helen being chosen found life flat and dull
And later had much trouble from a fool,
While that great Queen, that rose out of the spray,
Being fatherless could have her way
Yet chose a bandy-legged smith for man.

(40 marks)

Part B

2. T.S. Eliot in his epic poem *The Waste Land*, attempts to locate human suffering as a deep inner state of mind than something caused by external conditions. Do you agree? Explore with close reference to the poem.
3. For Larkin, the condition of Mr. Bleany is also the condition that afflicts human beings. Respond to this statement only using the poems of Larkin as your mode of reference.
4. Analyse how Robert Frost uses imagery in *The Wood-Pile* and *Birches* to explore the tension between escapism and responsibility.
5. W.B. Yeats is considered a symbolic poet who uses allusive imagery and symbolic structure in his poems. Discuss with reference to THREE (03) poems by Yeats that you have studied.

(60 marks)