

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

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

AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 5

FINAL EXAMINATION - January 2025

LITERATURE AND SOCIETY - LEU5501/LSU3201

DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)



014

DATE: 04. 01. 2025

TIME: 01.30 pm.- 04.30pm.

ANSWER FOUR (04) QUESTIONS IN TOTAL, CHOOSING ONE (01) EACH FROM PARTS A, B, C, AND D.

Part A (25 marks)

1. Frustration, anger and even aggression dominate the war poems of Wilfred Owen. Using THREE (03) of the poems you have studied explore this situation.
2. For Siegfried Sassoon the poem is a medium for reliving the trauma of the battle. Do you agree? Argue with reference to THREE (03) of the poems you have studied.

Part B (25 marks)

3. Harold Pinter's *The Dumb Waiter* is a drama that challenges the idea of human bonding, especially the lack of it. Explore this statement ONLY with close reference to the text of the play.
4. Ben and Gus in Harold Pinter's *The Dumb Waiter* are not only criminals, but a reflection of human condition beyond the basement of their operations. Do you agree? Argue ONLY with close reference to the text of the play.

Part C (25 marks)

5. How does Manjula Padmanabhan bring out the theme of resistance in the play *Harvest*? Discuss with reference to TWO (02) characters in the play.
6. Lenny, the young narrator of *Ice Candy Man*, experiences a loss of innocence as she witnesses the violence of the partitioning of India. How far do you agree with this statement? Argue using adequate examples from the text.
7. “*A Man of the People* presents Achebe’s proposal for a better society and future for Africa.” Discuss the above statement with supporting evidence from the novel.

Part D (25 marks)

8. “An unspoken guilt can inspire women to find freedom of thought and action.” Discuss the above statement with reference to the two (02) female characters, Jasmine and Wylie, in *Jasmine* by Bharati Mukerjee.
9. How does Jean Rhys’s *Wide Sargasso Sea* explore the idea of gender in shaping individual identity and relationships? Explain your answer using examples from the text.