



074

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

FINAL EXAMINATION	-	October 2024
INTRODUCTION TO POETRY	-	LED3510/LSD1210
DURATION	-	THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 06.10.2024

TIME: 01.30 am – 04.30pm

ANSWER THE QUESTION IN PART A, TWO (02) QUESTIONS FROM PART B AND TWO (02) FROM PART C.

Part A

1. Read the following extract and answer the questions given below. (Students should use examples from the text to support their answers)

She dwelt among the untrodden ways
Beside the springs of Dove,
A Maid whom there were none to praise
And very few to love:

A violet by a mossy stone
Half hidden from the eye!
—Fair as a star, when only one
Is shining in the sky.

She lived unknown, and few could know
When Lucy ceased to be;
But she is in her grave, and, oh,
The difference to me!

Questions

- i. Who is the narrator of this poem? What is the relationship between the narrator and Lucy? **(03 Marks)**
- ii. Based on the poem, describe the character of Lucy. **(03 Marks)**
- iii. Comment on the use of literary techniques (mention at least 2 techniques) in the poem and how they affect the overall idea of the poem. **(04 marks)**
- iv. What do you think is the main theme of this poem? Give examples from the poem to support your answer. **(05 Marks)**
- v. Focusing on the last three lines of the poem, describe the emotions and feelings of the poet. **(05 Marks)**

(20 Marks)

Part B

2. Comment on two (02) of the following extracts.
 - a) Place the passage in context.
 - b) Comment on the important poetic techniques in the extract.
 - c) Comment on the significance of the extract to the poem as a whole.

- i). Now I look and cook just like him:

my brain light;
tossing this and that
into the pot;
seasoning none of my life
the same way twice; happy to feed
whoever strays my way.
He would have grown
to admire

the woman I've become:
cooking, writing, chopping wood,
staring into the fire.

- ii. I wandered lonely as a –
Lonely as a cloud when –
Soft-boiled egg, yes my dear,
As usual, three minutes -
As a cloud which floats –
Look, I said I'll cook it,
Just hold on will you -
All right, I'm coming.
"One day I was out for a walk
When I saw this flock -
It can't be too hard, it had three minutes.
- iii. Now that, being dead, you are beyond detection,
And I need not be discreet, let us confess
It was not love that married us nor affection,
But elders' persuasion, not even loneliness.
Recall how first you were impatient and afraid,
My eye were open in the dark unlike in love,
Trembling, lest in fear, you'll let me go maid,
Trembling on the other hand, for my virginity.

- iv. And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
 A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
 Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
 Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
 And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
 In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

(30 Marks)

Part C

Answer **two** of the following questions.

3. Select TWO poems that you studied under “Poetry and Women’s Experiences’ and analyze their attitude towards traditional gender roles assigned to women in a society.
4. Discuss how Lord Byron in his poem ‘She Walks in Beauty’ and Pablo Neruda in his poem ‘If You Forget Me’ deal with the theme of love.
5. How do the poems Poem at ‘Thirty Nine’ and ‘A Dog has Died’ address the theme of death? Discuss in reference to the poems.
6. How does Wilfred Owen use imagery in ‘Dulce et Decorum Est’ to describe the horror of war? Support your answer with at least three examples from the poem.
7. “Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thoughts have found words”. Discuss with reference to any two poems in your syllabus.

(Marks 50)