

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH

FINAL EXAMINATION

- July 2013

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

- LSC3204

DURATION

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)



DATE: 21.07.2013

TIME: 9.30 am. - 12.30 pm

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN PART A, AND 03 OTHERS, SELECTING ONE EACH FROM PARTS B, C AND D.

Part A

1. (a) Read the following poem and answer the questions given below.

Anthem for Doomed Youth

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?
 Only the monstrous anger of the guns.
 Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle
 Can patter out their hasty orisons.
 No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells,
 Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,—
 The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;
 And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all?
 Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes
 Shall shine the holy glimmers of good-byes.
 The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;
 Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,
 And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

Wilfred Owen

- i) Comment on the signs that the poet relates to mourning in the poem?
- ii) How has the poet used imagery to bring out the meaning of the poem?
- iii) How have the poetic techniques of tone, rhyme and rhythm used by the poet contributed to the meaning of the poem?.

(14 marks)

(b) Write a short character sketch on any one of the following in George Orwell's novel, *Animal Farm* .

- i) Squealer ii) Mollie

(13 marks)

(c) Discuss the significance of the physical setting in Susan Glaspell's *Trifles*.

(13 marks)

Part B

Select only ONE question.

2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow.

Remember

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

Christina Rossetti

- i. Describe how the narrator feels from the beginning to the end of the poem, commenting on (any) changes in initial feeling/s and why those changes are/were brought about?
- ii. What do the following lines mean? Discuss in reference to the rest of the poem.
"Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad."

- iii. What do you think the poet is trying to convey in the poem? Use evidence from the poem to support your answer?

(20 marks)

3. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow.

The Wild Swans at Coole

The trees are in their autumn beauty,
The woodland paths are dry,
Under the October twilight the water
Mirrors a still sky;
Upon the brimming water among the stones
Are nine-and-fifty swans.

The nineteenth autumn has come upon me
Since I first made my count;
I saw, before I had well finished,
All suddenly mount
And scatter wheeling in great broken rings
Upon their clamorous wings.

I have looked upon those brilliant creatures,
And now my heart is sore.
All's changed since I, hearing at twilight,
The first time on this shore,
The bell-beat of their wings above my head,
Trode with a lighter tread.
Unwearied still, lover by lover,
They paddle in the cold
Companionable streams or climb the air;
Their hearts have not grown old;
Passion or conquest, wander where they will,
Attend upon them still.

But now they drift on the still water,
Mysterious, beautiful;
Among what rushes will they build,
By what lake's edge or pool
Delight men's eyes when I awake some day
To find they have flown away?

William Butler Yeats

- i. Comment on how the swans are described by the poet in the poem, and the imagery used.
- ii. How has the poet brought out the theme of youth and age in the poem? Use evidence from the poem to support your answer.
- iii. Comment on the poetic techniques that the poet has used in the poem and how they contribute to its meaning.

(20 marks)

Part C

Select only ONE question.

4. In Orwell's *Animal Farm* "the theme 'power corrupts' is portrayed mainly by Napoleon". Do you agree? Discuss with reference to the novel.
(20 marks)
5. Comment on the role played by Boxer in *Animal Farm*.
(20 marks)

Part D

Select only one question.

6. How does the action of Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters challenge traditional gender roles in Susan Glaspell's '*Trifles*'
(20 marks)
7. Critically analyze Susan Glaspell's use of symbolism in '*Trifles*'?
(20 marks)