



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH	-	LEVEL 3
FINAL EXAMINATION	-	June 2007
DRAMA AND POETRY	-	LSD 1206
DURATION	-	THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE:	09. 06. 2007	TIME:	1.30 pm.	-	4.30pm.
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ANSWER QUESTION 01 AND TWO OTHERS, SELECTING ONE FROM
PART B AND ONE FROM PART C.

Part A

- 1) Identify any two of the following passages and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

a) *'No Nightingale did ever chant
More welcome notes to weary bands;
Of travelers in some shady haunt,
Among the Arabian sands:
A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard
In spring – time from the cuckoo bird,
Breaking the silence of the seas
Among the farthest Hebrides.."*

b) *"Though use make you apt to kill mee,
Let not to that, selfe murder added bee,
And sacrilege, three sinnes in killing three."*

- c) *"You'd do right to leave that rope, Bartley, hanging by the boards. It will be wanting in this place, I'm telling you, if Michael is washed up tomorrow morning, or the next morning, or any morning in the week, for it's a deep grave we'll make him by the grace of God."*
- d) *'I grant I never saw a goddess go;
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground:
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.'*

(40 marks)

Part B

- 2) Futility pervades the life of the islanders in Synge's "Riders to the Sea." Discuss how Synge makes use of symbols to depict futility.
- 3)*"Glamis thou art, and Cawdor, and shalt be
What thou art promis'd Yet do I fear thy nature;
It is too full o'th'milk of human kindness
To catch the nearest way..."*

The above quotation from the play 'Macbeth' reveals an inherent characteristic of Macbeth. Discuss how Lady Macbeth's mediation changed Macbeth and moved him to evil.

(30 marks)

Part C

- 4) "Whatever the subject, 'Donne's poems reveal the same characteristics that typified the work of the metaphysical poets: dazzling wordplay, subtle argumentation, surprising contrasts and striking imagery." Do you agree? Discuss with reference to at least 03 of Donne's poems.
- 5) Many of Shakespeare's themes are conventional sonnet topics, such as love and beauty, and the related motifs of time and mutability. Discuss how he treats these themes in his own distinctive fashion.
- 6) "The Love song of Alfred J. Prufrock is not really a love song." Justify or refute this statement.
- 7) What special traits do you see in Wordsworth's poetry? Discuss with reference to at least 03 of his poems.
- 8) "The images brought about in John Keats' poetry carries personification." Discuss with reference to the Odes written by John Keats.

(30 marks)