

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

FINAL EXAMINATION

FORMS OF FICTION

DURATION

- LEVEL 4

- May 2008

- LSD 2204

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)



DATE: 24. 05. 2008

TIME:

9.30 am.

-

12.30pm.

ANSWER QUESTION (1), AND ANY TWO OTHERS, SELECTING ONE  
EACH FROM PART B AND PART C.

Part A

- 1) Identify two (02) of the following passages and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

i) *"Twenty minutes to six!" In a tone of fine bitter carelessness she continued; "Eh he'll not come now till they bring him. There he'll stick! But he needn't come rolling in here in his pit-dirt, for I won't wash him. He can lie on the floor ..... Eh, what a fool I've been, what a fool! And this is what I came here for, to this dirty hole, rats and all, for him to slink past his very door. Twice last week ..... he's begun now ....."*

ii) "My life looks as if it had been wasted for want of chances! When I see what you know, what you read, and seen, and thought, I feel what a nothing I am!"

iii) 'She's got an indiscreet voice,' I remarked. It's full of - ' I hesitated .  
'Her voice is full of money,' he said suddenly.  
That was it. I'd never understood before. It was full of money - that was the inexhaustible charm that arose and fell in it, the jingle of it, the cymbals' song of it ...  
High in a white palace the ;king's daughter, the golden girl ...

- iv) The girl stood up and walked to the end of the station. Across, on the other side, were fields of grain and trees along the banks of the Ebro. Far away, beyond the river, were mountains. The shadow of a cloud moved across the field of grain and she saw the river through the trees.

‘And we could have all this,’ she said. ‘And we could have everything and everyday we make it impossible.’

(40 marks)

**Part B**

- 2) Would you agree with the view that Jay Gatsby in the novel by Scott Fitzgerald deserves the title ‘*The Great Gatsby*’? Give reasons for your answer.
- 3) Hardy’s novel *Tess of the D’urbervilles* is an indictment of the social ills prevalent in Victorian society. Discuss.

(30 marks)

**Part C**

- 4) ‘A writer’s style should be direct and personal, his imagery rich and earthy and his words simple and vigorous.’ (Ernest Hemingway)  
Discuss Hemingway’s short story Hills Like White Elephants in relation to this statement.
- 5) ‘The living appear to be more dead than the dead.’ Justify or refute this statement in relation to James Joyce’s short story The Dead.

(30 marks)