

## THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

DIPLOMA IN ENGLISH

- LEVEL 4

FINAL EXAMINATION

- May 2010

FORMS OF FICTION

- LSD 2204

DURATION

- THREE HOURS (03 hours)



DATE: 29. 05. 2010

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 extracts and comment on their significance to the text from which they are taken.

- i) Some time toward midnight Tom Buchanan and Mrs. Wilson stood face to face discussing, in impassioned voices, whether Mrs. Wilson had any right to mention Daisy's name.

'Daisy! Daisy! Daisy!' shouted Mrs. Wilson. 'I'll say it whenever I want to!  
Daisy! Dai -'

Making a short deft movement, Tom Buchanan broke her nose with his open hand.

- ii) "The other sat, noting with faint disapproval the general untidiness of the room. Then she fell to counting the shoes of various sizes scattered over the floor. There were twelve. She sighed and said to herself, "No wonder!" - glancing at the litter. There came the scratching of two pairs of feet on the yard, and the Ripleys entered."

- iii) Clare came close, and bent over her. "Dead, dead, dead!" he murmured. After fixedly regarding her for some moments with the same gaze of unmeasurable woe he bent lower, enclosed her in his arms, and rolled her in the sheet as in a shroud. Then lifting her from the bed with as much respect as one would show to a dead body, he carried her across the room, murmuring, "My poor poor Tess, my dearest darling Tess! So sweet, so good, so true!" The words of endearment, withheld so severely in his waking hours, were inexpressibly sweet to her forlorn and hungry heart. If it had been to save her weary life she would not, by moving or struggling, have put an end to the position she found herself in. Thus she lay in absolute stillness, scarcely venturing to breathe, and, wondering what he was going to do with her, suffered herself to be borne out upon the landing. "My wife—dead, dead!" he said.
- 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.

(40 marks)

Part B

- 2) "I was within and without, simultaneously enchanted and repelled by the inexhaustible variety of life". Using this quotation as a starting point, discuss the characteristics of Nick Carraway and the role he plays in "*The Great Gatsby*".
- 3) Hardy, through Tess's story in *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, has presented a critique of the social milieu of the time. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Discuss your reasons for doing so, giving examples from the text.

(30 marks)

Part C

- 4) Critically analyze the character of Gabriel in James Joyce's short story *The Dead*.
  
- 5) When Muni and the American meet and converse in "*A Horse and Two Goats*", the differences between them are immediately apparent, and these differences inform the main idea of the story, the clash of cultures. Do you agree with this statement? Give examples from the short story to support your answer.

(30 marks)