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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
BA IN ENGLISH & ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING - LEVEL 5
FINAL EXAMINATION - July 2011
LITERATURE & SOCIETY - LSU 3201
DURATION - THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE: 02. 07. 2011 **TIME: 1.30 pm. - 4.30 pm.**

ANSWER FOUR (04) QUESTIONS IN TOTAL, CHOOSING ONE EACH FROM PARTS A, B, C AND D.

Part A – Drama (25 marks)

1. "In Pinter's play *The Dumb Waiter* Ben comes across as the obedient ruthless employee who follows orders, while Gus, despite his comical appearance, dares to question authority." Do you agree with this statement? Discuss with close reference to the play.

Part B – Poetry (25 marks)

2. War is not fought solely on the battlefield. It is also fought in other sections of society. Do you agree? Discuss using the war poems you have studied.

Part C – Fiction (25 marks)

3. Achebe's *A Man of the People* and Sidhwa's *Ice Candy Man* problematizes the consequences/ impact of colonialism on postcolonial societies. Discuss this statement in relation to BOTH texts, citing at least 03 examples from both texts which illustrate the problematic areas.

Please note the examples are to be used to support your argument. Plot narration is not required and you can assume the examiner is familiar with the texts.

For Repeat students ONLY:

4. Achebe's *A Man of the People* and Divakaruni's *Sister of My Heart* contain representations of the various aspects of postcolonial society and the influence of colonialism. Discuss 03 such aspects in relation to BOTH TEXTS. Please note the examples are to be used to support your argument and plot narration is not required - you can assume the examiner is familiar with the texts. No marks will be given where only one text is discussed.

Part D – Criticism (25 marks)

5. To what extent would you agree with the statement that the title character in Bharati Mukherjee's *Jasmine*, needs to travel to the United States to make something significant of her life, because in the third world, she is faced with only despair and loss?

For Repeat students ONLY:

6. The two main protagonists in Divakaruni's *Sister of My heart* need to step outside traditional boundaries, literally and/ or metaphorically, to live the life they want. To what extent do you agree with this statement?