



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH

FINAL EXAMINATION

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

DURATION

February 2009

LSC 3204

THREE HOURS (03 hours)

DATE:

28.02.2009

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.

Fireworks

They rise like sudden fiery flowers
That burst upon the night,
Then fall on earth in burning showers
Of crimson, blue and white.

Like buds too wonderful to name,
Each miracle unfolds,
And Catherine wheels begin to flame
Like whirling marigolds.

Rockets and Roman candles make
An orchard of the sky,
Whence magic trees their petals shake
Upon each gazing eye.

James Reeves.



Glossary

whence means 'from which'

- i. What do 'they' refer to in line 01? (02 mark
- ii. Which of our five senses will experience what is described in the poem?

(02 marks)

(A) \$4.50 (1.15年) (1.15年)

- iii. Comment on the rhyming scheme of the poem. (04 marks)
- iv. Identify a technique used by the poet to convey meaning and give 03 examples.

(06 marks)

- (b) Comment on the role played by the pigs and dogs in George Orwell's novel 'Animal Farm'. Whom do they represent? (13 marks)
- (c) Giving examples from the text, write about the qualities of men that Susan Glaspell highlights in her play 'Trifles'. (13 marks)

Part B

Select only one question.

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

LIKE A SILK WORM WEAVING

i sa merakan din Si

Like a silkworm weaving
her house with love
from her marrow
and dying
in her body's threads
winding tight, round
and round

I burn desiring what the heart desires.

Cut through, O lord, my heart's greed and show me your way out,

O lord white as jasmine.

By Mahadeviyakka
Translated by A.K. Ramanujan

- i. What does the poet identify herself with?
- (02 marks)

ii. Whom is the poet addressing?

- (02 marks)
- iii. a. What are the lines which tell us that the poet wants a "release"?
 - b. From what does she want a release and why?
- (08 marks)
- iv. Comment on the techniques used by the poet to make the poem effective. Give examples where necessary. (08 marks)
- 3. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow.

Night

Silently sleeps the river.

The dark pines hold their peace.

The nightingale does not sing,

Or the corncrake screech.



Night. Silence enfolds.

Only the brook murmurs,

And the brilliant moon turns

Everything to silver.

Silver the river,
And the rivulets,
Silver the grass
Of the fertile steppes.

Night. Silence enfolds.

All sleeps in Nature

And the brilliant moon

Turns everything to silver.

Sergei Esenin

i. What do 'Silently sleeps the river', 'Silence enfolds' and 'brilliant moon' tell you about the poet's attitude to night time? (04 marks)
ii. What effect does the moonlight have on the landscape? (04 marks)
iii. What do you think are the 'fertile steppes'? (04 marks)
iv. Comment on the techniques used by the poet to make the poem effective. Give

iv. Comment on the techniques used by the poet to make the poem effective. Give examples wherever necessary. (08 marks)

Part C

Select only one question

4. "The main theme in Orwell's novel, Animal Farm is about dictatorship in all its forms."

Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer with close reference to the text.

(20 marks)

5. Write in detail about any two characters that make an impact in the changes that occur in George Orwell's novel Animal Farm.

(20 marks)

Part D

Select only one question.

- 6. Discuss the main themes in Susan Glaspell's play 'Trifles'. Support your answer with reference to the text. (20 marks)
- 7. Do you think 'Trifles' is a suitable title for Susan Glaspell's play that you have studied for your Drama course? Justify your answer with close reference to the text.

(20 marks)