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UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

First Semester Examination  
Academic Session 2006/2007

October/November 2006

**HXE 108 – APPROACHES TO ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Duration: 3 hours

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Please check that this examination paper consists of TWO pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer FOUR questions. Choose any TWO questions from Section A and TWO from Section B.

Section A

1. How does Stephen Crane use literary devices to convey the cruelty of war in his poem "War is Kind" (1899)?

[100 marks]

2. In *The Joy Luck Club* (1989) Amy Tan explores the relationship between mothers and daughters in order to reveal the significant role of women as cultural transmitters and inter-generational communicators. Validate your discussion with appropriate examples from the text.

[100 marks]

3. How reliable and objective is the narrator in William Faulkner's (1897-1962) "A Rose for Emily"? Does it matter that the narrator is male?

[100 marks]

Section B

4. How does Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979) use language, in particular imagery, to reveal a child's view of the world in the poem "First Death in Nova Scotia"?

[100 marks]

5. To what extent would you agree with the view that in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895) Oscar Wilde "merely decorates a silly play with flippant wit".

[100 marks]

6. In Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Young Goodman Brown" (1835), what Brown sees and hears during his journey into the forest are projections of his inner conflicts and guilty feelings which have been repressed for a very long time. Discuss this proposition using relevant Freudian concepts.

[100 marks]