
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

First Semester Examination
Academic Session 2006/2007

October/November 2006

HXE 210- 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY NOVELS

Duration: 3 hours

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

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

Section A

Answer TWO questions from Section A.

1. How is the concept 'bad from birth' or 'hereditary vice' depicted in *Oliver Twist*?

[100 marks]

2. In what ways does Elizabeth Bennet show an independent mind in comparison to other female characters in *Pride and Prejudice*? Discuss

[100 marks]

3. Discuss, with examples the major themes in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*.

[100 marks]

Section B

Answer any TWO questions.

3. The character of Mrs. Tulsi in *A House For Mr. Biswas* challenges in many ways the traditional and stereotypical portrayal of women. Discuss.

[100 marks]

4. In William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, Piggy is the most intelligent and rational character but he is a victim too. Provide a critical evaluation about the significance of this character to this novel.

[100 marks]

5. How does *The Handmaid's Tale* depict patriarchal ideology and attitude toward women?

[100 marks]