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First Semester Examination  
Academic Session 2018/2019

December 2018/January 2019

**HET315 – Language and Power**

Duration : 2 hours

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Please check that this examination paper consists of SIX (6) pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer **THREE (3)** questions. Answer Question 1 and any other **TWO (2)** questions.

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1. Answer both [a] and [b].

[a] Describe the concept of intertextuality, as defined by Kristeva (1966) and Fairclough (2003).

[10 marks]

[b] The extract below is about the corruption-free pledge during the 14<sup>th</sup> general elections in Malaysia. Examine the intertextual voices in terms of source and engagement.

[30 marks]

KUALA LUMPUR: Many political parties have welcomed the move by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to introduce a special corruption-free pledge (IBR) in conjunction with the 14th General Election.

MIC deputy president Datuk S. K. Devamany said the move indicates a positive progress in the country's political culture.

"This is important as it shows that we are moving to a more matured democracy and good governance.

"All members of parliament must sign the IBR to show that they are serious to embrace transparency, accountability, and statesmanship," he said when contacted today.

Perak Pas Youth chief Mohd Akmal Kamaruddin also lauded the move by the anti-graft body stating that it was important for the election candidates to be free from corruption.

"We do not have any problem to sign the pledge as all of our future candidates for the upcoming general election were internally vetted.

"We fully supported the MACC's initiative to ensure a good and clean election," he said.

MCA religious harmony bureau chief Ti Lian Ker said the initiative should have been done 10 years ago when the perception of the people towards the politicians was high.

"I think the IBR is the secondmost important thing right now as the MACC must focus on enforcing and combating corruption," he said.

MACC chief commissioner Tan Sri Dzulkifli Ahmad said the graft buster would introduce a special IBR for the looming general election to ensure a transparent and clean election.

"There's no laws that required them to sign the pledge but we welcome and will give full cooperation to any political parties that want to do it," he said after witnessing the IBR signing ceremony by the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Fama).

In a separate matter, Dzulkifli also revealed that it has been two years since the inception of the IBR and the Selangor state government had yet to sign the pledge.

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“We will not give up and continue to wait for them (Selangor state government) to response.

“All agencies under the state government have signed the IBR and hopefully the state government can follow suit before the next general election,” he added.

On Monday, Selangor Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Azmin Ali said the IBR alone was insufficient and the state government had introduce their own additional measures to combat corruption.

Source: <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2018/01/330351/bn-pas-politicians-give-thumbs-ge14s-special-corruption-free-pledge>

2. Answer both [a] and [b].

[a] Describe van Leeuwen’s concept of Social Actors.

[5 marks]

[b] The excerpt below is from Sylvia Plath’s *The Bell Jar* (1963). Analyse the Social Actors and explain their power relations.

[25 marks]

The wall-eyed nurse came back. She unclasped my watch and dropped it in her pocket. Then she started tweaking the hairpins from my hair.

Doctor Gordon was unlocking the closet. He dragged out a table on wheels with a machine on it and rolled it behind the head of the bed. The nurse started swabbing my temples with a smelly grease.

As she leaned over to reach the side of my head nearest the wall, her fat breast muffled my face like a cloud or a pillow. A vague, medicinal stench emanated from her flesh.

“Don’t worry,” the nurse grinned down at me. “Their first time everybody’s scared to death.”

I tried to smile, but my skin had gone stiff, like parchment.

Doctor Gordon was lifting two metal plates on either side of my head. He buckled them into place with a strap that dented my forehead, and gave me a wire to bite.

I shut my eyes.

There was a brief silence, like an indrawn breath.

Then something bent down and took hold of me and shook me like the end of the world. Whee-ee-ee-ee-ee, it shrilled, through an air crackling with blue light, and with each flash a great jolt drubbed me till I thought my bones would break and the sap fly out of me like a split plant.

I wondered what terrible thing it was that I had done.

Source: Plath, Sylvia. (1996). *The Bell Jar*. New York: Harper Perennial.

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3. The following lyrics are from the song *Dear Future Husband* (2015) by Megan Trainor. Discuss how this song conceptualises the roles of husband and wife, and how these roles maintain or change gender expectations.

[30 marks]

<p>Dear future husband Here's a few things You need to know if you wanna be My one and only all my life</p> <p>Take me on a date I deserve it, babe And don't forget the flowers every anniversary 'Cause if you treat me right I'll be the perfect wife Buying groceries Buy-buying what you need</p> <p>You got that "9 to 5" But, baby, so do I So don't be thinking I'll be home and baking apple pies I never learned to cook But I can write a hook Sing along with me Sing-sing along with me</p> <p>You gotta know how to treat me like a lady Even when I'm acting crazy Tell me everything's alright</p> <p>Dear future husband Here's a few things You'll need to know if you wanna be My one and only all my life Dear future husband, If you wanna get that special lovin' Tell me I'm beautiful each and every night</p>	<p>After every fight Just apologize And maybe then I'll let you try and rock my body right Even if I was wrong You know I'm never wrong Why disagree? Why, why disagree?</p> <p>Dear future husband, Here's a few things You need to know if you wanna be My one and only all my life (hey, baby) Dear future husband Make time for me Don't leave me lonely And know we'll never see your family more than mine</p> <p>I'll be sleeping on the left side of the bed Open doors for me and you might get some kisses Don't have a dirty mind Just be a classy guy Buy me a ring Buy-buy me a ring, babe</p> <p>Source: <a href="https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/meghantrainor/dearfuturehusband.html">https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/meghantrainor/dearfuturehusband.html</a></p>
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4. Answer both [a] and [b].

[a] Define 'ideology', as proposed by Eagleton (2007).

[10 marks]

[b] Evaluate the significance of Eagleton's definition in critical discourse studies.

[20 marks]

5. The extract below is from an article about migration in Europe. Using the strategies in Wodak's discourse historical approach, discuss how concerns about migration are framed.

[30 marks]

Germany's Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) has confessed it is dealing with a "four-digit number" of migrants with declared links to the Taliban, potentially endangering neighbouring countries such as France. According to a *Der Spiegel* report, German federal prosecutors are currently investigating at least 70 Afghans, although it is unclear whether they are all suspected of links to the Islamist group. Six have actually been detained, and cases are pending against several more – with prosecutor-general Peter Frank warning politicians that the authorities, which are also contending with suspected Islamic State sympathisers, have now reached "the limits of their capacity". Europe has been plagued by a number of mass-casualty terror attacks perpetrated by migrants in recent years. Recent examples include Uzbek asylum seeker Rakhmat Akilov, who drove a hijacked lorry into civilians on a pedestrianised street in Stockholm, and Anis Amri, a Tunisian asylum seeker who carried out a similar attack against a Christmas market in Berlin. The revelations concerning Taliban fighters in Germany could, therefore, have an impact on the presidential run-off in neighbouring France: anti-mass migration populist Marine Le Pen is facing off against former Rothschild banker and Socialist economy minister Emmanuel Macron, and the issue of border control has been hotly contested. Ms Le Pen has pledged to quit Schengen, the European Union agreement which eliminates border controls between most EU member-states, very early on in her presidency. Radical Islamists have previously taken advantage of Schengen, which has been denounced as "an international passport-free zone for terrorists" by former Interpol chief Robert Noble, to attack France, often from extremist enclaves in neighbouring Belgium.

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Macron, on the other hand, is deeply committed to the EU, saying that France was a "valley of tears" before the bloc. He also accepts mass immigration will be a fact of life moving forward:

"We have entered a world of great migrations," he said in February 2017, "and we will have more and more of it."

Macron is also relatively laid back with respect to terrorism, describing it as "an imponderable problem", which will be "part of our daily lives for years to come".

Similar comments after the Nice lorry attack on Bastille Day 2016 by Macron's former colleague, ex-prime minister Manuel Valls, proved extremely unpopular with the French public, who loudly heckled him at a crowded memorial event.

"Times have changed and we should learn to live with terrorism," Valls had said following the attack, which killed 86.

The backlash against this remark is thought to have played a prominent role in terminating his own hopes of a presidential run.

Source: <https://www.breitbart.com/europe/2017/04/26/schengen-danger-thousands-former-taliban-fighters-may-entered-germany/>