

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama  
Sidang Akademik 2002/2003

September 2002

**HET 308 – Malaysian and Singaporean Literature in English**

Masa : 3 jam

**THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS SIX [6] QUESTIONS IN TWO [2] PAGES.**

Answer **FOUR [4]** questions.

Each question carries 25 marks.

Do **not repeat** what has already been elaborated in another question.

1. What are the primary concerns of Malaysian dramatists? Illustrate your discussion with reference to at least two plays.
2. Evaluate the works of any one Malaysian or Singaporean poet from the point of view of style and content. In your view, does the poet succeed in his or her aims as a writer?
3. What would you consider to be the definitive aspects of literature in this region? Discuss with detailed reference to any one genre.
4. K.S. Maniam suggested in the late 1980s that “Malaysian Literature in English has a function; holding a mirror to its immigrant self”. The view raises a number of perceptions. Discuss the validity of his claim with reference to Malaysian and / or Singaporean fiction.

5. Discuss with reference to actual works, the style of any one of the following writers, as well as the themes they deal with:

- [a] Ghulam Sarwar Yousof;
- [b] Gopal Baratham;
- [c] Catherine Lim;
- [d] K.S Maniam;
- [e] Cecil Rajendra.

Limit your discussion to any one genre only.

6. Choose one of the following topics:

- [a] women in this region (Malaysia and Singapore);
- [b] past and present.

Based on the topic you have selected, provide a suitable title and write an essay which explores the topic in the context of specific works of literature written in English in this region.