

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Kedua
Sidang Akademik 2003/2004

Februari/Mac 2004

**HET522 - Perspectives In English Language Studies:
Literacy & Literary**

Masa : 3 jam

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

1. This paper is divided into two sections of three questions.
2. You must answer **TWO** questions from each section, making a total of **4 answers**.
3. Use a separate answer booklet for **each section**.
4. Each question is worth the same number of marks.

Section A:

Answer any **TWO** questions.

1. Hammerberg and Grant (2001) say:

“... there is the assumption that print literacy is powerful and necessary. While knowing how to read and write appears as a necessity in today’s world of print, history shows that this necessity has emerged at the expense of other forms of knowing. It is a history of dominations, control and authority, and the price paid occurs when other ways of finding patterns in life, of making meaning, are not viewed as educationally credible or important, because they are not viewed as “literate” behaviours” (p.81).

Would you agree? Elaborate, and discuss the above statement.

2. With reference to your course readings, discuss and evaluate the views and contributions of any one individual or group to the study of literacy.
3. Choose **one** of the following, and discuss problems, developments and research issues relating to the topic.
- [a] Basic skills,
 - [b] Evaluating literacy,
 - [c] ESL learners,
 - [d] Pedagogy for literacy, and
 - [e] Multiliteracies.

Section B:

Answer any **TWO** questions

4. The Western Canon with its emphasis on Eurocentric values, beliefs and stereotypes works against the spirit of pluralism in denying or marginalizing plurality of discourses, identity and linguistic diversity. Discuss.
5. Analyse the following poem paying particular attention to how the use of the first person pronoun sets up a number of conflicting subject positions that destabilise any attempt to monologise the discourse and ultimately raises the question “Who speaks for Gaia?”

Gaia Speaks

I've no doctrinal preference for green,
I don't love dolphins any more than rats.
I'm not offended by large blocks of flats,
I do not mind the smell of kerosene;
If Heathrow spreads, I will not intervene,
I hold no brief for rare endangered cats –
as far as I'm concerned, let horseshoe bats
follow the creatures of the Eocene.
Having said that, I'm rather fond of Man,
enthusiastic agent of my plan
to end diversity, and leave the earth
hot, bare and simple, as it was at birth

John Race

6. Discuss how the treatment of the landscape and weather in poetry is a valuable resource in sensitizing readers to the interrelatedness of ecology, economy and literacy.