

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama
Sidang Akademik 2001/2002

September 2001

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

Masa : 3 jam

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

Answer any **FOUR [4]** questions. Do not repeat your content in the different questions. Each question carries 25 marks.

1. Discuss with exemplification, what you would consider to be the predominant themes and issues that can be identified in literary works from this region.

2. It has been suggested that a

“distinctive contribution of a regional literature to a world literature...may be to consist in giving ‘a local habitation and name’ to themes that in the abstract are of ultimate concern to all humanity” (John Kwan Terry, 1984)

Evaluate this statement with specific exemplification from works of any one genre from either Singapore or Malaysian.

3. Discuss with specific references the poetry of any one of the following:

Ghulam Sarwar

Ee Tiang Hong

Edwin Thumboo

Cecil Rajendra

Shirley Lim

4. Discuss how any one of the following themes is developed in the works of any one author in the region:

Alienation
Women in men's worlds.

5. Which of the following genres would you argue to be the most developed and vibrant in either Singapore or Malaysia:

Drama
Novels.

Be specific with your references. You may wish to consider 'themes, relevance and popularity' in answering this question.

6. K.S. Maniam once claimed that "to be Malaysian and to write in English can be frustratingly opposing activities". Is this a fair comment to make of literature written in English in Malaysia? Discuss with references to as many works as you can.

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