

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama
Sidang Akademik 2003/2004

September/Oktober 2003

HXE 108 – Approaches to English Literature

Masa : 3 jam

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER COMPRISES **TWO** PAGES.

Answer FOUR questions. Choose any TWO questions from **Section A** and TWO from **Section B**.

Section A

1. EITHER

- [a] How far would you agree that Ted Hughes' poem "November" is "a finely wrought literary text, a unified complex art object the theme of which has universal significance" (Tyson 1999)?

[100 marks]

OR

- [b] Analyse the ways in which William Butler Yeats uses both symbols and allusions in his poem "The Second Coming" (1920) to convey his view of a future that is full of repression and brutality.

[100 marks]

2. How successful is the New Critical approach in enabling you to understand Pecola's quest for whiteness and growing self-hatred in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* (1970)?

[100 marks]

...2/-

3. What is the central theme in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*? Discuss how Shakespeare uses figurative language and rhetorical devices to convey this theme.

[100 marks]

Section B

4. Discuss Frank O'Connor's economic but well-controlled style in his short story "First Confession" (1951). How effective is such a narrative style in rendering Jackie's bittersweet memories of the events surrounding his first confession?

[100 marks]

5. Which particular Freudian concepts are useful in enabling you to understand Gregor Samsa's psychological condition and his relationship with his family in Kafka's "The Metamorphosis" (1916)?

[100 marks]

6. Apply Freud's theory of repression to Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818) and discuss how it is able to shed light on Victor's hidden desires, fears, needs and conflicts.

[100 marks]