

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama  
Sidang Akademik 2003/2004

September/Oktober 2003

**HXE 305 – Malaysian Literature in English**

Masa : 3 jam

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER COMPRISES **TWO** PAGES.

Answer FOUR questions. Each question carries 25 marks. Do not repeat what has already been elaborated in another question.

1. 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 these perceptions and the validity of his claim with reference to Malaysian and / or Singaporean fiction.
2. What would you consider to be the significant characteristics of any one genre of literature from this region (Singapore / Malaysia / or both)? Discuss with exemplification.
3. Discuss with reference to texts the style of any one of the following writers:
  - [a] Ghulam Sarwar Yousof;
  - [b] Gopal Baratham;
  - [c] Catherine Lim;
  - [d] K.S Maniam;
  - [e] Muhammad Haji Salleh.

Limit your discussion to any one genre only.

...2/-

4. Choose one of the following topics:

- [a] Postcolonialism;
- [b] Manglish and Singlish;
- [c] Women in this region;
- [d] Past and present.

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

5. Fanon suggested that newly emergent literatures tend to develop into an “assured phase” of writing. Would you agree? Discuss and evaluate the achievements of works written in this region in the light of Fanon’s view.