

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama

Sidang Akademik 2000/2001

September/Oktober 2000

HXE 305 – Malaysian Literature In English

[Masa: 3 jam]

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS FIVE [5] QUESTIONS IN TWO [2] PAGES.

Answer FOUR [4] questions. Do not repeat material. **EACH** question carries 25 marks.

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 the validity of his claim with reference to Malaysian and/or Singaporean fiction.
2. Compare and contrast literature in English from Malaysia and Singapore. Substantiate with reference to specific works.
3. 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.
4. 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] Cecil Rajendra.

Limit your discussion to any one genre only.

5. Choose one of the following topics:

- [a] autobiographical writing;
- [b] remaking English;
- [c] women in this region (Malaysia and Singapore);
- [d] 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.

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