

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Peperiksaan Semester Pertama

Sidang Akademik 2000/2001

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HXE 108 – Approaches To English Literature

Masa: [3 jam]

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER CONTAINS SIX [6] QUESTIONS IN THREE [3] PAGES.

Answer FOUR [4] questions. Choose any TWO [2] questions from Section A and TWO [2] from Section B. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION A

1. From the fifth century B.C. to the present, critics such as Plato, Aristotle, Dante, Wordsworth, and a host of others have developed principles of criticism that have had a major influence on the ongoing discussion of literary theory and criticism. Discuss how some of these principles of criticism have informed and shaped the basic tenets and assumptions of New Criticism and Structuralism.

2. EITHER
 - [a] Discuss how Fitzgerald uses the imagery of unfulfilled longing to describe characters and setting in *The Great Gatsby*.

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OR

- [b] Discuss the concept of "organic unity" as understood by the New Critics. Illustrate your answer by making references to Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.
3. To what extent would you agree that from a New Critical perspective, Lucille Clifton's "There's a Girl Inside" is a finely wrought literary text, a unified complex art object the theme of which has universal significance?

SECTION B

4. EITHER

- [a] Discuss how Kate Chopin's intricate use of symbols and images help to tell the complete and complex story of Edna Pontellier in *The Awakening*.

OR

- [b] What are some of the basic principles and assumptions of Structuralism? How would you attempt to read Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* from one particular Structuralist perspective?

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5. How useful is a semiotic analysis in helping you to understand Ernest Hemingway's "A Very Short Story"?

6. To what extent would you agree with the view that Shakespeare's *The Tempest* is a fairy tale complete with magical occurrences, suspension of the laws of nature and with a happy ending?

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