

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2019

Second Year Fourth Semester

ENGLISH

Special Author: Shyam Selvadurai

Time: Two hours

Full marks: 30

Answer all questions.

1a. How useful is Derrida's notion of hospitality in understanding the predicament of queer individuals, such as Shivam in Selvadurai's *The Hungry Ghosts*?

Or

b. What do you understand by "homing desire"? Does any of Selvadurai's protagonists get to fulfil their homing desire? Answer with reference to the texts you have read.

2a *Funny Boy* critiques the legacy of colonial education in postcolonial Sri Lanka through the depiction of Victoria Academy. Discuss.

Or

2b. Do you think Selvadurai successfully subverts the Austenian paradigm of female sexuality, propriety and marriage in his rewriting of *Pride and Prejudice* in *Cinnamon Gardens*?

3a. *Swimming in the Monsoon Sea* is a coming of age narrative which reveals ugly truths to its young protagonist about belonging to a minority community, both in terms of ethnicity and sexuality. Discuss.

Or

3b. How does the *Othello* subplot fit into the one-sided love story in *Swimming in the Monsoon Sea*?