

Bachelor of Arts Examination, 2022
Third Year Sixth Semester
Department of English
Contemporary Literature

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any three* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. a. "The relationship of the literary text to the particular pressures and limits that condition it is identified through contextual study." Write an essay on *at least five* such conditions that you think added impetus to the development of the postmodern novel.

OR

- b. Discuss Lyotard's definition of postmodernism as "incredulity towards metanarratives" with reference to *any two* of the texts you have studied in your course.
2. Analyse how Toni Morrison engages with collective and individual memory in *Beloved*.
3. Discuss *The French Lieutenant's Woman* as a postmodern historical novel.
4. a. Would you agree that Roald Dahl's 'Royal Jelly' is his most grotesque tale? Give reasons for your answer.

OR

- b. "Strife came to us that fall. At least that's what the paper called it. Strife." Write an essay on *any two* of the social conditions that Morrison deals with in 'Recitatif'.
5. 'Heaney has been applauded by "liberals" for not "taking sides" yet the problem is not this "shallow moderation" but the search for a deeper language'. Discuss the poems by Heaney you have read in the light of the above statement.
6. Analyse Margaret Atwood's treatment of the theme of mortality in "Morning in the Burned House".
7. How do Rich and Levertov depict women's desires for freedom and adventure? Discuss with reference to the poems you have read.
8. a. Comment on the significance of the First Act of *Top Girls*. How do you think it relates to the rest of the play?

OR

- b. Is *Top Girls* a valid critique of late capitalism? Give reasons for your answer.
9. If you had a free hand how would you direct a production of Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/ When the Rainbow is Enuf*?