

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2022  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Year, 4<sup>th</sup> Semester)  
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Course: CL/PG/ 4.2D

LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURES II

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any three* questions  
Answer *either* in English *or* in Bengali  
All questions carry equal marks

1 a) Juan Rulfo's *Pedro Paramo* and Manuel Puig's *Kiss of the Spider Woman* introduce innovative narrative techniques that question the perceived stability of human identity and experiences. Explore these techniques with reference to the two novels.

OR

1 b) The ambiguity between the dead and living in *Pedro Paramo* not only heightens the tragedies that the characters endure but also highlights life's ontological meaninglessness. Would you agree? Answer with reference to the text.

2 a) Why and how do you think Latin American narratives explore an alternative relationship with the concept of time? Discuss through close readings of some of the short stories you have read as part of this course.

OR

2 b) Discuss Latin American short stories in relation to each other, to offer an understanding of 'silences' in the context of cultural history of Latin America.

3 a) John Beverley argues that Testimonio as a genre locates itself in the intersections of several literary and non-literary genres yet it is not a derivative one. Explain this view with reference to *I, Rigoberta Menchu* and analyzing it as a 'testimonio'.

OR

3 b) Do you think that the debate surrounding *I, Rigoberta Menchu* is also a debate about the identity of the 'testimonio' as a genre? Explain with adequate and relevant reference to the essays written on and about the Rigoberta Menchu controversy.