

FACULTY OF HUMAN SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH HONOURS				
QUALIFICATION CODE: 08BHEN		LEVEL: 8	LEVEL: 8	
COURSE CODE: LIT811S		COURSE NAME	: LITERARY THEORY	
SESSION:	JULY 2019	PAPER:	THEORY	
DURATION:	3 HOURS	MARKS:	75	

SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER		
EXAMINER	Dr J.S. Pasi	
MODERATOR	Dr N. Mlambo	

	INSTRUCTIONS
1.	Answer THREE questions ONLY.
2.	Write clearly and neatly.
3.	Number the answers clearly.
4.	Do not repeat information or texts.

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF 3 PAGES (Including this front page)

Answer any THREE questions from the following.

Question 1 25 marks

Using the following poems and any other works of fiction or drama to support your answer, critically evaluate Marxist literary theory.

It is we who ploughed the prairies, built the
Cities where they trade
Dug the mines and built the workshops, Endless miles of railroad laid,
Now we stand outcast and starving.
Mid the wonders we have made

(Solidarity by Ralph Chaplin)

Equality?
There's no equality!
You see the tyranny of the heart,
The hands that exploit, the mind that steals,
From the hands that make,
From the minds that conceive,
The little ones and the old.
All cease
After time capitalised.

(Equality by Muhammad Shahab)

Question 2 25 marks

What is formalism? Discuss the basic tenets of formalism and show how these tenets relate to the poem below.

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance or nature's changing course untrimm'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou growest:
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.
(Source: eNotes Publishing, ©2012 eNotes.com, Inc.)

Question 3 25 marks

Define postcolonial theory and say what its major concerns are. Which novels in African literature can you think of which support your response.

Question 4 25 marks

"In the debate between Third World Women and Western Feminists, one perspective lays blame on Western feminist theorists for silencing the African woman in the very speech intended to liberate her from." (Mangena, 2013).

Critically analyse the above statement, showing how African literary feminists in particular have tried to solve the challenges of mainstream feminism through literature. Use two novels to support yourself. (500 words)

END OF QUESTION PAPER