

EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF ARTS AND CULTURE

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION (SEPTEMBER 2020)

2017/2018

EN 1212 LITERATURE IN ENGLISH – THEMATIC APPROACH

Time: 02 hours

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Answer **four questions** in all choosing **two including question number 01 from part I**, and **any 02 from part II**.

Part I

01. Answer any four identifying the source and the author/poet of the following lines, and comment on their literary significance to the overall effect of the text from which they have been taken:
- And it grew both day and night  
Till it bore an apple bright  
And my foe beheld it shine  
And he knew that it was mine
  - I tell her what I know  
Is not true, that life  
Is always better than death
  - ... 'where is he going to stay in Colombo? How can we afford boarding fees? What about his clothes? You can't go to a big school in rags. Travelling? He will have to come home on weekends. Besides, I've heard awful stories about big cities. Never mind his education, let me have my son...
  - 'Come here you foolish women,' he shouted. 'If you could have but used your eyes instead of your tongues this would not have happened. But come now and behold your spirit...'
  - No nightingale did ever chaunt  
More welcome notes to weary bands  
Of travellers in some shady haunt  
Among Arabian sands

(4x5=20 marks)

02. Write short notes for the following literary devices:

- simile

- b. metaphor
- c. rhyming couplet
- d. symbol

(4x5=20 marks)

03. a. List out the elements of short story. (5 marks)  
b. Provide definitions to each of the elements. (10 marks)  
c. Illustrate each element briefly in the light of any short story you have studied. (5 marks)

(5+10+5=20 marks)

(2x20= 40 marks)

### Part II

04. "The short story **Eveline** presents the character of Eveline as caught up in a dilemma (indecision). However, the protagonist has grown to be a woman of maturity towards the end of the narrative." Do you agree? Substantiate your answer with evidence from the short story. (30 marks)

05. Discuss the thematic treatment of the short story **Another Community** by R.K.Narayan. Substantiate your answer with quotations from the short story.

Or

Discuss the humorous elements present in **The Tree Spirit** by Punyakante Wijenaik. Quote from the text to substantiate your points.

(30 marks)

06. Write an appreciation of the poem **Solitary Reaper** by William Wordsworth, **or** **Plead Mercy** by Anne Ranasinghe. Explain how the poem evokes human emotions intensely and how the literary devices enhance the poetic enjoyment. Substantiate your answer from the poems. (30 marks)

(2x30=60 marks)