



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2023
Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2020
Course Name – Postcolonial Literatures
Course Code - BELS602
(Semester VI)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. Choose the correct alternative from the following :

(i) Who is the apparition in the poem 'Civilian and Soldier'?

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|----------------------|-----------|
| a) Ghost of soldier | b) Mother |
| c) Ghost of civilian | d) Father |

(ii) Postcolonial theory asserts that mainstream approaches like realism and liberalism

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| a) Should take account of the views of scholars in the South | b) Will be made more accurate by the inclusion of imperialism as a topic of study |
| c) Are part of an ongoing colonial project | d) Are misguided but essentially benign |

(iii) Which sub-specialty in postcolonial criticism analyzes the importance of human constructions of physical with mental spaces, especially in political contexts?

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Spatial/geographical studies | b) Psycho-mythic studies |
| c) Ecofeminism | d) Both a and b |

(iv) Around what political movement is "Weep Not, Child" centered?

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a) Mau Mau Rebellion | b) Non-Aligned Nations Movement |
| c) Pan-African Movement | d) The Shifta Uprising |

(v) Along with which other two lecturers did the author, Ngugi wa Thiongo'o present a rejection of the primacy of English literature and cultures at Nairobi University?

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| a) Chinua Achebe and Gakaara wa Wanjaũ | b) Karen Blixen and Kim Chi Ha |
| c) Amos Tutuola and Gabriel Okara | d) Owuor Anyumba and Taban Lo Liyong |

(vi) Identify who is a kite runner.

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| a) Someone who competes in the kite-fighting tournament | b) Someone who retrieves the losing kite of a kite battle |
| c) Someone who makes and sells kites | d) Someone who is exceptionally skilled at flying kites |

(vii) Select the name of the critic who explained "Double consciousness."

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| a) Said | b) Du Bois |
| c) Fanon | d) Spivak |

- (viii) Predict which amongst the following are Baba's last words to Amir, while he is diagnosed with lung cancer and Amir says he doesn't know what to do without him.
- a) Amir needs to quit crying and accept that he will be alone soon
- b) Amir needs to have faith that God will provide for him
- c) That he has been trying to teach Amir how to live without him for Amir's whole life
- d) That Amir should find Hassan to make up for the ways he wronged him
- (ix) Select the correct information regarding Things Fall Apart.
- a) The novel follows the life of Okonkwo, an shayo
- b) The novel follows the life of Okonkwo, an Dinka
- c) The novel follows the life of Okonko, an Igbo
- d) The novel follows the life of Okonkwo, an Igbo
- (x) Choose the name whom Okonkwo beats in his legendary wrestling match.
- a) Ekwefi Ogbuedi the Rooster
- b) Amalinze the Cat
- c) Ogbuedi the Snake
- d) Isaac the Toad
- (xi) State the historical reason as to white the Negro wants to speak French.
- a) Learning the language can open doors for him which were barred until fifty years ago
- b) The Black man wants to gain control over the language
- c) He wants to impress his fellow comrades
- d) It helps him to learn his own culture better
- (xii) Identify the form of the poem A Far Cry from Africa.
- a) rhymed Verse
- b) free verse
- c) blank verse
- d) formal verse
- (xiii) Choose the correct option regarding A City's Death by Fire.
- a) a heroic; poem imbued with expression of intensive feelings of defeat, sadness, and disillusionment that come with the destruction of the city
- b) a dramatic; poem imbued with expression of intensive feelings of loss, sadness, and disillusionment that come with the destruction of the city
- c) is a lyrical; poem imbued with expression of intensive feelings of loss, sadness, and disillusionment that come with the destruction of the city
- d) is a lyrical; poem imbued with expression of intensive feelings of loss, happiness, and disillusionment that come with the construction of the city
- (xiv) What is the concept of negritude?
- a) It seeks to study the experiences of blacks in colonial powers
- b) It linked black people across Africa, the Caribbean, and the USA around a set of humanist values that were supposedly held by blacks the world over
- c) It was introduced to post-colonial studies by Franz Fanon
- d) t was introduced to post-colonial studies by Edward Said
- (xv) Why does post-colonial scholar Homi Bhaba argue that colonial discourse was ambivalent about the colonized?
- a) Scholars did not travel to colonies and therefore could not establish an accurate picture of colonized peoples
- b) Portrayal of the colonized errs towards either a passive and conquerable subject or an irrational, untamed barbarian. This means that the colonial subject becomes consistently stereotyped
- c) Post-colonial scholars were too focused on the colonizing power rather than the colonized peoples
- d) The colonized did not make enough effort to have their voices heard

Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Interpret the character of Okonkwo as a tragic hero. (3)
3. Define Ngugi's 'theory of language' as propagated in "Decolonising the Mind." (3)

4. Discuss the basic purpose of postcolonialism. (3)
5. Discuss with reference to Homi Bhabha, "the uncanny of the postcolonial condition." (3)
6. Evaluate the pathos of identity in Ama Ata Aidoo's novel Our Sister Killjoy. (3)

OR

Briefly explain why Okonkwo calls himself a woman. (3)

Group-C

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Illustrate upon the condition of Pre and Postcolonial Igbo society in Things Fall Apart. (5)
8. Analyse the character of Sissie in Aidoo's novel Our Sister Killjoy. (5)
9. Describe the Plight of A Hero in Achebe's Things Fall Apart (5)
10. The novel begins with Amir's memory of peering down an alley, looking for Hassan who is kite running for him. As Amir peers into the alley, he witnesses a tragedy. The novel ends with Amir kite running for Hassan's son, Sohrab, as he begins a new life with Amir in America. Why do you think the author designs to frame the novel with these scenes? (5)
11. Neruda's poems amply displays exuberance of youthful passion, sensual poetic beauty, the lingering sadness and the despondency of grief. Justify the above in context of "Tonight I can Write" and "The Song of Despair." (5)
12. Critically analyse the politic of language in Africa as explicated by Wa Thiongo'o in his work "Decolonising the Mind." (5)

OR

Life on the colony is stuck in the liminal space between imprisonment and exile -- Evaluate the statement with reference to Ama Ata Aidoo's novel Our Sister Killjoy. (5)
