



## BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2023-2024

Programme – B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2020/B.A.(Eng)-Hons-2021

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) Infer the correct option to identify the constructed binary division of the world according to postcolonial studies.
- a) The East and the West  
b) The Orient and the Occident  
c) The Civilized and the Uncivilized  
d) None of the options
- (ii) Recognise the author of 'The Location of Culture'.
- a) Frantz Fanon  
b) Homi Bhabha  
c) Edward Said  
d) Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
- (iii) Recognise which of the novel by Salman Rushdie is often considered a seminal work of postcolonial literature?
- a) Midnight's Children  
b) The God of Small Things  
c) Things Fall Apart  
d) None of the options
- (iv) Choose the name of the author of Black Feminist Thought.
- a) Henry Louis Gates  
b) Patricia Hill Collins  
c) Bell Hooks  
d) Alice Walker
- (v) Identify Fanon's works from the following titles?
- a) Black Skin, White Masks (1952) and The Wretched of the Earth (1961)  
b) Power, Power, Power (1951) and How Colonisation Happened (1960)  
c) The Way to Prosperity (1955) and The Colonised (1975)  
d) Colonies (1980) and Post-Colonial Theory (1990)
- (vi) In his renowned work 'Orientalism' Edward Said argues how 'the orient' is portrayed in Western novels, media, and artwork. Infer how it is portrayed.
- a) A place prone to liberal democracy and revolutionary feminism.  
b) An accurate depiction of the modern day Middle East and Asia, meaning that scholars and academics can rely solely on these ancient works

- c) Lost in the past, prone to despotic rule, and plagued by 'odd' cultural traditions
- d) Too focused on historical facts and accurately portraying the experience of life in the region
- (vii) Recall which of the following works cannot be categorised under postcolonial theory?
- a) Nation and Narration
- b) Orientalism
- c) Discipline and Punish
- d) White Mythologies
- (viii) Interpret the main function of postcolonial criticism.
- a) To represent the relationship between colonizers and the colonized
- b) To draw attention to the positive effects of colonization on literature
- c) To explain why there are few examples of successful non-Western literature
- d) To show the ways in which most Western literature is superior
- (ix) Identify which other two lecturers along with Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o presented a rejection of the primacy of English literature and cultures at Nairobi University?
- 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
- (x) Predict how did Ali come into Baba's family in "The Kite Runner".
- a) Ali's parents were killed and Baba's father, who judged the murder trial, took him in
- b) He killed a sheep belonging to Baba's family and was forced to become their servant as punishment
- c) He was born to the Hazara servant of Baba's father
- d) Baba and Ali had the same father
- (xi) State why do Baba and Amir leave Kabul.
- a) The invasion by the Russians has turned the country into a dangerous war zone
- b) The new president created a totalitarian dictatorship when he took power
- c) One of Baba's old enemies has found Baba and wants to take revenge
- d) The Taliban threaten to kill Baba
- (xii) Determine why Amir laughs when Assef beats him.
- a) He has gone crazy
- b) He has been drugged
- c) He feels relief from his guilt
- d) He feels Assef can't hurt him
- (xiii) Choose which amongst the following is not a work of Fanon.
- a) Black Skin, White Masks
- b) The Wretched of the Earth
- c) A Dying Colonialism
- d) Decolonising the Mind
- (xiv) Recall Homi Bhabha's concept of mimicry in the context of colonial discourse and choose the correct answer.
- a) The complete assimilation of the colonised into the dominant culture.
- b) A form of resistance where the colonised imitates the coloniser while retaining a degree of difference.
- c) A strategy used by the coloniser to control and manipulate the colonised.
- d) The process of cultural exchange between coloniser and colonised.
- (xv) Infer how Bhabha's concept of mimicry challenges traditional understandings of cultural assimilation.
- a) It emphasises the necessity of complete cultural assimilation for societal harmony.
- b) It highlights the impossibility of cultural assimilation due to inherent differences between coloniser and colonised.
- c) It suggests that cultural assimilation is possible only if the colonised completely abandon their own culture.
- d) It demonstrates that cultural assimilation can occur alongside the retention of difference and resistance.

### Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Express upon the symbol of the Mercedes-Benz in Ama Ata Aidoo's novel *Our Sister Killjoy*. (3)



3. Define, with reference to Ngugi Wa Thiong'o's "Decolonising the Mind," 'colonial alienation.' (3)
4. Discuss the significance of the title "A Far Cry from Africa". (3)
5. Describe the significance of Sohrab's eyes in "The Kite Runner". (3)
6. Evaluate the slippage of home in Ama Ata Aidoo's Our Sister Killjoy. (3)

**OR**

"I had one last chance to make a decision. One final opportunity to decide who was I going to be, I could step into that alley, stand up for Hassan- the way he'd stood for me all those times in the past- and accept whatever would happen to me, or I could run....In the end, I ran. " Predict the possible reasons as to why does Amir run from the scene of Hassan's assault in "The Kite Runner". (3)

**Group-C**  
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. Infer upon Ngugi Wa Thiongo'o's critique of neocolonialism in the African context with reference to his work "Decolonising the Mind." (5)
8. Write an essay on the relationship between cultural fall and the hero's fall in Things Fall Apart by Achebe. (5)
9. Write a note on the Injustice and Inhumanity in A City's Death by Fire by Derek Walcott. (5)
10. Discuss how the ever-changing politics of Afghanistan affect any two characters in the novel, "The Kite Runner". (5)
11. Critically analyse Homi K. Bhabha's theories of 'Mimicry' and 'Hybridity' in the context of postcolonialism and globalisation. (5)
12. Evaluate the flaws committed by Baba and Amir and discuss how their sins compare. (5)

**OR**

Justify the title "The Kite Runner". (5)

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