



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

MAIN EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2016

COURSE: ENGLISH 3B **TIME:** 3 HOURS

COURSE CODE: ENG3B21/ENG3BB3 **MARKS:** 300

EXAMINERS:

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2. Prof F. Kalua (UNISA)

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS.**
2. **PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN A SEPARATE EXAM BOOKLET, AND WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE QUESTION ON THE FRONT OF THE BOOKLET.**

QUESTION 1: Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*

In a close analysis of these passages from the novel, explain how Woolf's use of focalisation reveals James Ramsay's changing feelings towards his father.

Your essay should comment in particular on:

- a. The significance of the underlined passages.
- b. The use of stream of consciousness narration and focalisation in giving the reader access to the thoughts and emotions of James (first passage) and Cam (second passage).

Part 1, Chapter 1, p. 2

"But," said his father, stopping in front of the drawing-room window, "it won't be fine."

Had there been an axe handy, a poker, or any weapon that would have gashed a hole in his father's breast and killed him, there and then, James would have seized it. Such were the extremes of emotion that Mr Ramsay excited in his children's breasts by his mere presence; standing, as now, lean as a knife, narrow as the blade of one, grinning sarcastically, not only with the pleasure of disillusioning his son and casting ridicule upon his wife, who was ten thousand times better in every way than he was (James thought), but also with some secret conceit at his own accuracy of judgement. What he said was true. It was always true. He was incapable of untruth; never tampered with a fact; never altered a disagreeable word to suit the pleasure or convenience of any mortal being, least of all of his own children, who, sprung from his loins, should be aware from childhood that life is difficult; facts uncompromising; and the passage to that fabled land where our brightest hopes are extinguished, our frail barks founder in darkness (here Mr Ramsay would straighten his back and narrow his little blue eyes upon the horizon), one that needs, above all, courage, truth, and the power to endure.

and

Part 3, Chapter 12, p. 223

Then having lighted his pipe he [Mr. Ramsay] took out his watch. He looked at it attentively; he made, perhaps, some mathematical calculation. At last he said, triumphantly:

"Well done!" James had steered them like a born sailor.

There! Cam thought, addressing herself silently to James. You've got it at last. For she knew that this was what James had been wanting, and she knew that now he had got it he was so pleased that he would not look at her or at his father or at any one. There he sat with his hand on the tiller sitting bolt upright, looking rather sulky and frowning slightly. He was so pleased that he was not going to let anybody share a grain of his pleasure. His father had praised him. They must think that he was perfectly indifferent. But you've got it now, Cam thought.

(100)

QUESTION 2: Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*

Using the given extract as a point of departure, discuss the relationship between colonization and racial identity as Ondaatje represents it in *The English Patient*. Your answer must include an explanation of how the characterization of Kip, as well as the setting, functions in establishing this relationship.

He [Kip] was accustomed to his invisibility. In England he was ignored in the various barracks, and he came to prefer that. The self-sufficiency and privacy Hana saw in him later were caused not just by his being a sapper in the Italian campaign. It was as much a result of being the anonymous member of another race, a part of the invisible world. He had built up defences of character against all that, trusting only those who befriended him'. (Ondaatje, 2004[1992]:209)

(100)

QUESTION 3: Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*

Arundhati Roy's novel, *The God of Small Things*, is concerned with the "consequence[s] of a radical taxonomic reshuffle" (Roy, 49).

Write an essay in which you discuss this statement. Your essay should focus on the characters of, and the relationships between, Ammu, Velutha, Estha, and Rahel.

(100)

QUESTION 4: Don DeLillo's *Falling Man*

Write an essay in which you discuss how DeLillo, in *Falling Man*, critiques the proposition that art is an effective means of expressing trauma.

(100)

END OF PAPER