



**FINAL EXAMINATION**  
**NOVEMBER 2023**

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**COURSE TITLE**            **INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY THEORY**

**COURSE CODE**            **ELIT4113**

**DATE/DAY**                 **19 FEBRUARY 2024 / MONDAY**

**TIME/DURATION**         **02:00 PM - 04:00 PM / 02 Hour(s) 00 Minute(s)**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES :**

1. Please read the instruction under each section carefully.
2. Candidates are reminded not to bring into examination hall/room any form of written materials or electronic gadget except for stationery that is permitted by the Invigilator.
3. Students who are caught breaching the Examination Rules and Regulation will be charged with an academic dishonesty and if found guilty of the offence, the maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

(This Question Paper consists of 3 Printed Pages including front page)

**\*\*\*DO NOT OPEN THE QUESTION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO\*\*\***



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This question paper contains **THREE (3) questions**. Answer **ALL** questions in the answer booklet. **[50 MARKS]**

**QUESTION 1**

**(15 Marks)**

Feminist theory analyzes literature through gender, advocating exploration of how gender influences interpretation in texts.

In your response:

- a) Describe **TWO (2)** ways women are represented in literature according to the Feminist lens. **(6 marks)**
- b) This question is based on the poem titled '*Morning Song*' by Sylvia Plath.

Love set you going like a fat gold watch.  
The midwife slapped your footsoles, and your bald cry  
Took its place among the elements.

5 Our voices echo, magnifying your arrival. New statue.  
In a drafty museum, your nakedness  
Shadows our safety. We stand round blankly as walls.

I'm no more your mother  
Than the cloud that distills a mirror to reflect its own slow  
Effacement at the wind's hand.

10 All night your moth-breath  
Flickers among the flat pink roses. I wake to listen:  
A far sea moves in my ear.

15 One cry, and I stumble from bed, cow-heavy and floral  
In my Victorian nightgown.  
Your mouth opens clean as a cat's. The window square  
Whitens and swallows its dull stars. And now you try  
Your handful of notes;  
The clear vowels rise like balloons.

Source: <https://poets.org/poem/morning-song>

Text 1

Referring to the poem provided, explain **THREE (3)** feminist perspectives on motherhood that can be found in the text. **(9 marks)**

**QUESTION 2**

**(15 Marks)**

In Postcolonial literary theory and criticism, the relationship between the colonizers and the colonized often takes the centre stage.

Based on the short story 'The Man Who Would be King' by Rudyard Kipling, in your response:

- a) Explain **THREE (3)** issues related to the life of colonizers in the colonized country.

**QUESTION 3**

**(20 Marks)**

The poems titled 'Dreams' by Langston Hughes (Text 2) and 'Passing Time' by Maya Angelou (Text 3) are **TWO (2)** examples of Postmodern literature.

2      Hold fast to dreams  
       For if dreams die  
4      Life is a broken-winged bird  
       That cannot fly.

6      Hold fast to dreams  
       For when dreams go  
8      Life is a barren field  
       Frozen with snow.

Source: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/150995/dreams-5d767850da976>

Text 2

2      Your skin like dawn  
       Mine like musk

4      One paints the beginning  
       of a certain end.

6      The other, the end of a  
       sure beginning.

Source: <https://www.poetryverse.com/maya-angelou-poems/passing-time>

Text 3

Referring to the poems provided, in your response:

- a) Explain **TWO (2)** similarities based on the features of Postmodern literature. (10 marks)
- b) Explain **TWO (2)** differences of the two poems. (10 marks)

\*\*\* END OF QUESTION PAPER \*\*\*

  
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