 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

**B.A.** DEGREE EXAMINATION - **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

FIFTH SEMESTER – APRIL 2011

# EL 5403 - TRANSITIONAL LITERATURE

Date : 19-04-2011 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 9:00 - 12:00

**Part A**

1. **Annotate or interpret the following in about 50 words each: (8 x 3 = 24)**
2. The pains we suffer in building the nation!

So the PS had ulcers too!

1. My husband pours scorn

On Black People …

1. Oh heavens, strike me dead!

Earth, open up and swallow…

Let the lightning fall and shrivel me…

1. Sprinkle with the musty ashes

from a pipe that is long over - smoked

1. The fishes turned men

And men turned fishes

And things stopped to grow.

1. The bullet was the means of the physical subjugation

Language was the means of the spiritual subjugation.

1. Language as communication is speech and it imitates the language of real life.
2. And behind the trees she stood

with roots sprouting from her

feet and leaves growing on her head

**PART – B**

1. **Answer any SIX of the following in about 150 to 200 words each:**

**(6 x 6 = 36)**

1. “The play, *The Lion and the Jewel*,vividly portrays the culture and beliefs of the Yoruba society” - Discuss.
2. Analyze the poem, *Building the Nation* as a parody of the modern political scenario.
3. How effectively does Ama Ata Aidoo present the identity crisis of the postcolonial citizens of Ghana in *Certain winds from the South?*
4. Analyze the various social dimensions of the African community with reference to the change of political scenario and its impact on the life of the people as presented in the various works prescribed in the syllabus.
5. Illustrate the spiritual significance of the drum rhythm in the life of the Africans as delineated by Gabriel Okara in the poem, *The Mystic Drum*.
6. “Bessie Head’s *Snapshots of a Wedding* is a poignant depiction of life, traditions and customs of an African village” - Discuss.
7. Evaluate the transitional effects of colonization in the poem, *Voices of Transition*.
8. Examine the conflict in *Things Fall Apart* with regard to change and tradition.
9. Critically evaluate the character of Lawino as presented by Okot.

**PART – C**

1. **Answer any FOUR of the following in about 300 to 350 words each:**

**(4 x 10 = 40)**

1. “Decolonizing the mind is to overthrow the alien authority and withdraw allegiance from them”- Illustrate.
2. Discuss the cultural degradation of the Yoruba community as seen in the play, *The Lion and the Jewel*.
3. “Ocol’s polygamy is a symbolic representation of the conflict between tradition and modernism in *The Song of Lawino*” - Discuss.
4. Critically review the reverberations of colonialism in the African continent as presented in the texts prescribed for your study.
5. Discuss the various themes in *Things Fall Apart.*
6. “The rhythm of the drum is the aching for an ideal Nigerian State of harmony” - Illustrate the statement with textual references from *The Mystic Drum.*
7. “The past includes the traditions of the village, symbolized not only by the rituals surrounding the wedding ceremony, but also by the economic stagnation and lack of educational opportunity in the village”- Discuss the statement with regard to *Snapshots of a Wedding*.

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