

M.A 4th Semester Examination, 2011

ENGLISH

PAPER — 2204 A

Full Marks : 40

Time : 2 hours

Answer all questions

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable

1. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10
- (a) “ *Things Fall Apart* is not only the story of the protagonist, Okonkwo ; it is also the story of an African community.” Discuss.
- (b) Write a critical note on the symbolic structure of *Things Fall Apart*.

(c) Examine the relationship between Mary and Moses in *The Grass is Singing*.

(d) Bring out the significance of the title of the novel, *The Grass is Singing*.

2. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) :

10

(a) Examine *A Dance of the Forests* as a critique of the colonial past as well as the post-colonial present of Africa.

(b) In *A Dance of the Forests* Soyinka explores the 'Theatrical value of elements of traditional African culture'. Discuss.

(c) How does Soyinka establish in his essay, *Drama and the African World-view*, his opinion that the difference between European and African drama is basically, that between two world-views?

(d) How, according to Soyinka, does *Song of a Goat* reflect a typical African world-view?

3. Answer any *one* of the following (within 300 words) : 10

(a) Examine Naipaul's employment of the metaphor of the 'house' in *A House for Mr. Biswas*.

(b) Consider *A House for Mr. Biswas* as a parable for a diligent reconstruction of identity.

(c) Examine Walcott's sense of a problem of identity as expressed in his *A Far Cry from Africa*.

(d) Discuss the animal imagery employed by Walcott to portray the theme of racial conflict in *Goats and Monkeys*.

4. Write comments on any *two* of the following (Each comment should be within 100 words) : 5 × 2

(a) The ending of *Things Fall Apart*.

(b) The role of the Reverend James Smith in *Things Fall Apart*.

(c) The half-child in *A Dance of the Forests*.

(d) Soyinka's view of the Medieval European theatre, as expressed in *Drama and the African World-view*.

(e) The Tulsī household in Naipaul's *A House for Mr. Biswas*.

(f) "The violence of beast on beast is read
As natural law, but upright man
Seeks his divinity by inflicting pain."
