

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Faculty of Language Studies** | | | |
| **Course Code: EL121N**  **Course Title: Literary Appreciation and Critique** | | | |
| **Take Home Exam (KSA Main)** | | | |
| **2019-2020/ Second**  **Tuesday 28-April-2020 12:00am**  **Tuesday 5-May-2020 12:00am** | | | |
|  | | | |
|  | | | |
|  | **Time Allowed: One Week** |  | **Number of Exam Pages: 3**  ((including this cover sheet |

**Instructions:**

**Time Allowed: One week**

**The exam has TWO parts as in the following table**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Part A** | **Close Reading: answer 1 question (mandatory)** | **10 marks** |
| **Part B** | **Choice of Questions: choose 1 out of 2 questions** | **10 marks** |
| **Total** |  | **20 marks** |

1. Allow time to read these instructions and the whole examination paper
2. Clearly write the number of the question which you decide to answer
3. Cross out any rough notes you make which you do not wish to be marked
4. Justify your answers and give evidence to prove your points
5. Make sure your answers are error-free, clear, and well-organized (part of each mark is for language and organization)
6. Allow some time at the end to revise your grammar, spelling and punctuation.

**Good Luck**

**PART A: Close Reading (around 250 words)/ *(10 marks)***

**‘Dead Men's Path’ by Chinua Achebe: Read the passage below and answer the following question:**

**Question 1: According to this passage, should we support Mr. Obi’s decision concerning the path? Use this passage to justify your answer.**

**‘Dead Men's Path’ by Chinua Achebe**

Ndume School was backward in every sense of the word. Mr. Obi put his whole life into the work, and his wife hers too. He had two aims. A high standard of teaching was insisted upon, and the school compound was to be turned into a place of beauty. Nancy's dream-gardens came to life with the coming of the rains, and blossomed….

One evening as Obi was admiring his work he was scandalized to see an old woman from the village hobble right across the compound, through a marigold flowerbed and the hedges. On going up there he found faint signs of an almost disused path from the village across the school compound to the bush on the other side.

"It amazes me," said Obi to one of his teachers who had been three years in the school, "that you people allowed the villagers to make use of this footpath. It is simply incredible." He shook his head.

"The path," said the teacher apologetically, "appears to be very important to them. Although it is hardly used, it connects the village shrine with their place of burial."

"And what has that got to do with the school?" asked the headmaster.

"Well, I don't know," replied the other with a shrug of the shoulders.

"But I remember there was a big row some time ago when we attempted to close it."

"That was some time ago. But it will not be used now," said Obi as he walked away. "What will the Government Education Officer think of this when he comes to inspect the school next week? The villagers might, for all I know, decide to use the schoolroom for a pagan ritual during the inspection."

Heavy sticks were planted closely across the path at the two places where it entered and left the school premises. These were further strengthened with barbed wire.

**(Exam continues next page)**

**PART B: (around 250 words)/ *(10 marks)***

**Answer only ONE of the two questions below.**

**Don’t forget to mention which question you are answering:**

**Question 2: ‘A Handful of Dates’ by Tayeb Salih (10 marks)**

**What are the young boy’s feelings towards his grandfather? Support your answer with evidence from this short story.**

**OR**

**Question 3: ‘The Necklace’ (10 marks)**

**‘The Necklace’ by Guy de Maupassant**

**Were Mr. Loisel and Mrs. Loisel happy before the necklace was lost? Justify your answer.**

**(End of Exam)**