

**BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO, OSUN STATE  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES  
ENGLISH PROGRAMME  
2020/2021 FIRST SEMESTER ONLINE EXAMINATIONS**

**COURSE CODE: ENG 414**

**TIME ALLOWED: 3 Hours**

**COURSE TITLE: AFRICAN PROSE FICTION**

**DATE: March, 2021**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS ONLY, ONE FROM EACH SECTION.**

**SECTION A**

- 1. **Either: (a)** With relevant examples from novels studied in class, discuss the thematic and stylistic mapping of African literature, bearing in mind Wole Soyinka’s argument in *Art, Dialogue and Outrage* (1988). **(30 marks)**

**Or: (b)** “Literature does not grow or develop in a vacuum; it is given impetus, shape, direction and even area of concern by social, political and economic forces in a particular society”. Examine the above statement with reference to any two novels you have studied in this course. **(30 marks)**

**SECTION B**

- 2. **Either: (a)** Discuss the gothic and spiritual elements in Thomas Mofolo’s *Chaka* and Camara Laye’s *The Radiance of the King*. Illustrate your answers with relevant examples. **(20 marks)**

**Or: (b)** Discuss the major contemporary issues in Olayinka Egbokhare’s *Dazzling Mirage*. **(20 marks)**

- 3. **Either: (a)** Write an essay on the pre-colonial and colonial elements in Amos Tutuola’s *The Palm-wine Drinkard* and Chinua Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart*. **(20 marks)**

**Or: (b)** What ideas in your opinion preoccupies Dambudzo Marechera’s *House of Hunger*? **(20 marks)**

## SECTION C

4. Peter Abraham's *Mine Boy* and Nadine Gordimer's *July's People* approach the same issue from different perspectives. With adequate reference to the texts, discuss four (4) distinctive approaches (two from each text) employed by both writers to present the issue before them. (20 marks)
5. Using relevant texts from your reading list, discuss postcolonial disillusionment as an important point of discussion among West African writers (20 marks)
- \* 6. Either: (a) Discuss the issues of betrayal, intimidation and forgiveness as treated in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's *A Grain of Wheat*. (20 marks)  
  
Or: (b) Discuss atheism, religious fundamentalism and gender roles as treated in Cheikh Hamidou Kane's *Ambiguous Adventure*. (20 marks)

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02/03/2021