

BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO, OSUN STATE

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES

ENGLISH PROGRAMME

2020/2021 SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: 426

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HRS

COURSE TITLE: AN INTRODUCTION TO POSTCOLONIAL THEORY

DATE: AUGUST, 2021

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS, ONE FROM EACH SECTION.

SECTION A

1. Do a postcolonial reading of any one of the following excerpts, paying attention to major themes, summary or description, theoretical insights, and stereotypes. (30 marks)

(i) You taught me language; and my profit on't
Is, I know how to curse.
- From William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (1610/11)

(ii) All we Babus talk English to show off.
- From Rudyard Kipling, *Kim* (1901)

(iii) ...divided to the vein?
.....
...how choose
.....
Between this Africa and the English tongue I love?
- From Derek Walcott, 'A Far Cry from Africa'

(iv) Don't write in English, they said, English is
Not your mother-tongue. Why not leave
Me alone, critics, friends, visiting cousins,
Every one of you? Why not let me speak in
Any language I like? The language I speak,
Becomes mine, its distortions, its queernesses
All mine, mine alone.
- From Kamala Das, 'An Introduction'


SECTION B

2. Discuss any FIVE basic assumptions that are considered important to postcolonial theory. (20 marks)

3. Examine **two** of the following literary approaches in relation to postcolonial theory: Formalism, Structuralism, Marxism and Deconstruction. (20 marks)
4. Discuss at least **one** of the institutions, instruments or agents that continue to sustain and extend the cultural and spiritual effects of European imperialism after its political institutions and power have been brought to an end. (20 marks)

SECTION C

5. Discuss the contributions of Edward Said to the development of postcolonial theory. (20 marks)
6. Explain the concept of Subalterns as enunciated by Gayatri Spivak. (20 marks)
7. Critically situate Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* as a counter narrative or a write back to Joyce Cary's *Mister Johnson* and Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. (20 marks)


31/07/2021