

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY  
FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN

SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATIONS – SUMMER 1999/2000

BACHELOR OF ARTS – SECOND YEAR

ITALIAN (IT220) – PAPER 3

Professor E.A. Millar

Professor C. O'Brien

Ms. J. Griffin

Time Allowed: 1½ Hours

Answer ONE Question.

1. Despite his having begun to write when the neorealist writers were at their most vital, and his having dealt with the same historical period and events as they did, Giorgio Bassani could in no way be considered to have been part of that movement. Discuss.
2. Assess the merits of the 'Prologo' as an introduction to *Il giardino dei Finzi-Contini* as a whole.
3. "Mi sentivo, ed ero, una specie di strano fantasma trascorrente, pieno di vita e morte insieme, di passione e di pietà." These are the words in which the narrator in *Il giardino dei Finzi-Contini* describes himself towards the end of the novel. From your reading of this work do you accept the above as an adequate description? Discuss with reference to the text.
4. How effective do you consider Bassani to have been in subtly creating a sense of impending doom as the novel unfolds? Discuss with reference to the text.
5. What is the effect on the atmosphere of the novel of the various attempts on the part of the characters to create an air of normality in a situation moving irrevocably towards abnormality?