

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY
FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS 2002/2003

BACHELOR OF ARTS – FINAL YEAR
OCCASIONAL STUDENTS

IT325 (DANTE) and IT326 (RENAISSANCE ART)

Professor M. McLaughlin
Professor C. O'Brien
Ms. Josephine Griffin

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Answer ONE Question from IT325 and ONE Question from IT326

Use separate Answer Book for each question

SECTION A - IT326 (RENAISSANCE ART)

1. 'Man is the measure of all things' said the Greek philosopher Protagoras and in many ways this symbolised the search for perfection and beauty that permeated the Italian Renaissance. Discuss the impact this assertion had on the work of certain writers and artists of that period.
2. Provide a critical assessment of the contribution made to art by any **one** of the following artists: Donatello, Botticelli, Raphael, Michelangelo or Titian.
3. Analyse the way in which the work of Giorgione introduced new elements to Italian painting that were peculiar to the Venetian environment in which he lived and worked.

SECTION B - IT325 (DANTE)

1. Discuss the topographical layout of *Purgatorio* indicating in a general manner how Dante organizes his material within this layout.
2. It has been said that as opposed to *Inferno* where Dante feels superior to its inmates, and to *Paradiso* where he feels inferior, in *Purgatorio* he is on a more or less even footing with the spirits he encounters there. From your reading of the second *cantica* explore and illustrate the notion of the poet/pilgrim finding himself among friends/equals and the effect of this on the atmosphere that prevails there.
3. Select a *canto* of *Purgatorio* which you consider of particular significance in the *cantica* as a whole. Justify your choice and illustrate with reference to the text.
4. The theme of exile runs right through *Purgatorio*. Discuss with specific reference to the text.
5. Dante had a keen sense of the disorder prevailing in his contemporary world. In the course of *Purgatorio* he clearly identifies what he considers to be the root causes of this disorder. Discuss making appropriate reference to the text of the *Purgatorio*.