

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

M.A. (Mode B) EXAMINATION 1998/99

EN527 LITERATURE OF NORTH AMERICA

PROFESSOR GEORGE WATSON
PROFESSOR ALASTAIR MINNIS
PROFESSOR KEVIN BARRY
DR JULIA CARLSON

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

ANSWER ONE QUESTION FROM PART A AND
ONE QUESTION FROM PART B

PART A:

1. Write on Raymond Carver's minimalism.
2. Analyse Alice Munro's use of closure in the short story.
3. Analyse the gendered structure of Rita Dove's *Thomas and Beulah*.
4. Analyse the father-son relationship in Richard Ford's *Independence Day*.
5. Write on the complex use of real estate in David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*.
6. Write on the role of the Angel in Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*.
7. Write on Jorie Graham and the aesthetics of vision.
8. Write on the representation of marginalised women in Melanie Rae Thon's stories.
9. Write on the role of the Lisbon sisters in Jeffrey Eugenides' *The Virgin Suicides*.

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PART B:

10. Discuss the preoccupation with the past which characterises contemporary North American writing. Refer to at least two texts on the course.
11. Discuss the limitations of language as a concern of contemporary North American writers. Refer to at least two texts on the course.
12. Discuss the way in which gender roles are represented in at least two texts on the course.
13. Identify what you believe to be important trends in contemporary North American writing and analyse how they are manifested in at least two texts on the course.

END.