

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

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

EN534 BOOK PREPARATION

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TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

ANSWER ALL FOUR QUESTIONS

Students are allowed to bring one single-volume dictionary into the examination.

1. Edit the following sentences. Write the edited sentences on your answer sheet.
 - (a) I did not hear the frontdoor bell as I was watching television.
 - (b) Needless to say, your car is very different to mine.
 - (c) They could not decide whether the data was correct.
 - (d) Passing from the hall into the sittingroom, the furniture struck her as very old-fashioned.
 - (e) None of us have the right to ask that of her.
 - (f) I earn money from either selling the jewellery I make or from baking bread for my neighbours.
 - (g) This exciting, new book fills a much needed gap in the literature on the subject.
 - (h) Precipitation means anything that falls from the sky; rain, snow, hail, sleet, ice, frost etc.

Contd./...

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2.

Generally the Southren part of Ghana (exceptfor the unusually dry area along the Coast betweeen Takoradi and the Toggo border), has more rainfall than The Northern Province. In the south rainfall is evenly distributed throughout the year: in the North, though, the year is divided in to a Wet Season and a Dry Season. The amount of rainfall which a place recieves, and the ways in which it is spread out through the twelve month's, depends a great deal upon the winds.

A wind is simply a currant of air moving accross the Earth's surface. It varies in strength, the wind also varies in direction. Wind is usually named after the direction from which it blows: a wind blowing from the south west toward the north-west is known as a northwesterly wind.

In Ghana there are two important winds;- the South-Westerlies and the Harmattan. As their names suggest the south-westerlies blow from the SW. Before reeching the Ghanan coast they blow across the gulf of Guinea. As a consequense, the air is able to take up a great deal of mositure: and the southwesterlies are moist winds. The harmattan blows from the N. and N.E.. Before arrivin in Ghana it blows over some of the dryest parts of Africa. As a consequence the air is not able to take up much water, and the harmattan is a dry wind.

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.../Q. 2 Contd.

If you live in the extreme South of Ghana you'll find that the winds come principally from the SW at all times of the year. So rain-fall occurs throughout the year. If you live in the North however the wind direction varies with the time of year; from April to Oct. the southwesterlies bring rain. For the rest of the year the Harmattan brings dry weather.

Contd./...

.../Contd.

3.

Jean-Paul Sartre on Freedom

The Paradox of free will

To what extent are we free? What are we really free to choose. If we are to any degree at all free to make choices, does it make sense to choose one thing rather than another? In this Chapter we must attempt to find out Sartre's answer to these questions. For in that answer lies the chief message, if we may so call it, of his existentialist philosophy.

Sartre appears to be committed to a pair of incompatible views. On the one hand we truly apprehend our own impotence: we are born in a certain place and at a certain time with certain characteristics which are not of our choosing. Yet we are free to be what we choose to be. There is, indeed no other sense, for the existentialist, in which we 'are' at all.

So Sartre seems to be faced with a quite unique version of the familiar paradox: human beings are both free and not free. How does he solve it?

Sartre's Solution

Motives and actions

Without motives there would be no actions. By a motive Sartre means a consciousness of something to be done. For example if I am very cold and get up to put more logs on the fire it is not the cold which leads to my action but my apprehension of the cold as something to

...Contd.

.../Q. 3 Contd.

be over-come.

Sartre takes examples from History to illustrate the way in which motive arise out of situations, e.g.

It is by a pure wrenching away from himself and the world that the worker can posit his suffering as unbearable suffering and consequently can make of it the motive for revolutionary action. This infers for consciousness the permanent possibility of affecting a rupture with its own past, so as to be able to consider it in the light of nonbeing. Under no circumstances can the past in anyway by itself produce an act. The fundamental condition of all action is the freedom of the acting being.

Character and Actions

If the past can not determine our choices, surely our characters are formed by what happens to us, and we act in character? This is an assumption which Sartre would most emphatically deny. For he holds the austere view that we choose not only our characters but our actions.

...Contd.

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4. Write a blurb, of no more than 120 words, for the back cover (paperback) of one of the following books, as though it was being published for the first time:
- (a) Toni Morrison, *Beloved*
 - (b) D.H. Lawrence, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*
 - (c) Franz Kafka, *The Trial*
 - (d) Dylan Thomas, *Under Milk Wood*
 - (e) Germaine Greer, *The Female Eunach*
 - (f) John McGahern, *Amongst Women*
 - (g) Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*
 - (h) Ted Hughes, *Birthday Letters*
 - (i) Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire*
 - (j) James Joyce, *Dubliners*

END.