

OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY
SECOND ARTS EXAMINATION
THIRD/FOURTH ARTS REPEAT EXAMINATION
SEMESTER II, 1998 – 1999

GX842

ID 495 THE SHORT STORY
(Interdisciplinary)

Professor E. Bourke, Professor D. Bradley, Ms. C. Carney, Dr. G. Denvir, Ms. J. Griffin,
Mr. F. Kelly, Dr. C. McCarthy

Time allowed: **Two** hours

Answer **TWO** questions, one from Section A and one from Section B. In the course of your two essays you must make substantial reference to at least three of the authors on this course. You are required to indicate in the top left-hand corner of the front page of your answer book the three (or more) authors to whose stories you make substantial reference in your answers.

Please also state on the cover of your answer book the department for which you are offering the course. You must avoid major repetition of material between the two sections.

Section A

1. In what different ways do the writers you have read for this course exploit particular features of the short story?
2. The genre of the short story seems most suited to telling tales of dislocated, unrooted characters. Would you agree with this opinion in the light of the stories you have read for this course?
3. The short story format cannot offer, as the novel can, sufficient scope for the treatment of an entire life. In its brevity, it is much easier for it to focus on the moments surrounding death. Write about the theme of death in any of the short stories on your course.
4. Examine the use of telling details in short story authors you have studied.

Section B

5. Discuss García Márquez's treatment of the political situation in which his characters must live.
6. Write about the importance of either the technique of epiphany or the theme of paralysis for the understanding of Joyce's stories in *Dubliners*.

7. The impossibility of relating to or empathising with another is the fundamental problem which arises again and again in the stories of Pádraic Ó Conaire. Would you agree with this assessment?
8. Discuss the relation between the individual and the group in Camus' short stories.
9. Analyse the significance of either **the subject** or **the city** in Poe's *Tales*.
10. The creature into which Gregor Samsa is transformed is usually translated as "beetle" or "insect". The original German word is "Ungeziefer", which is a singular form of "vermin". Please comment on the significance of this word.
11. Compare and contrast the ways in which Natalia Ginzburg and Italo Svevo deal with the theme of "The Mother" in the two short stories you have read.