

OLLSCOIL Na hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

SEMESTER II EXAMINATIONS, 2000/2001

THIRD ARTS EXAMINATION

EN388: Studies in Modern Irish Literature

Professor E. Ní Chuilleanáin
Professor B. O'Donoghue
Professor K. Barry
Dr. R. O'Dwyer

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS

AVOID DUPLICATION OF MATERIAL
ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS: ONE FROM EACH SECTION

SECTION A: YEATS

1. The sacred moon overhead
Has taken a new phase.
(*'The Cat and the Moon'*)

Write on Yeats's use of moon symbolism in his later poetry and *A Vision*.

2. 'The poems of *The Tower* volume of poetry struggle with the polarities of violence and civilisation, of brutality and heroism.' Consider this view, with reference to a range of poems from **this** volume.

3. 'Yeats's later plays reject realism in favour of a total theatre of dance, song, music, speech, ritual and gesture.' Discuss this judgement in the context of two of Yeats's plays.

Contd./...

.../Contd.

4. Yeats, in 'A General Introduction for my Work', wrote that **he** wished to focus on 'character in action'. Consider the **relevance of** this comment to Yeats's poems about people he knows or has **known**, making reference to a range of examples.

5. Caught in that sensual music all neglect
Monuments of unageing intellect.
(*'Sailing to Byzantium'*)

Write an essay on Yeats's exploration of the duality of life and **art** in his later poetry, taking *'Sailing to Byzantium'* as your **starting point**.

SECTION B: JOYCE

6. 'In *Ulysses*, Joyce plays Stephen's youthful point of view **against** Bloom's mature point of view, often confronting them with the **same** places and ideas.' Discuss.

7. 'The parallel with *The Odyssey* can be seen as one of the organisational frameworks of the narrative itself, but it is not **itself** the interpretation of that narrative.' Consider Joyce's scheme **for the** organisation of *Ulysses* in the light of this comment.

8. 'Nowhere in literature is the extraordinary edifice of urban community so particularised, or the variety and hidden inter-dependence of city lives so accurately reflected.' Write a **critical essay** on the 'Wandering Rocks' episode of *Ulysses*, taking this comment as

your starting point, and connecting it to the **overall narrative of the** novel.

9. 'Stephen and Molly have their own particular forms of **eloquence**, although Molly's is limited in scope and Stephen's is **hyperconscious**. Bloom's surpasses theirs.' Write on Joyce's use of stream of consciousness in *Ulysses*, in the light of this comment.

10. 'In *Ulysses* Joyce introduces much material which he does **not** intend to explain, so that his book, like life, gives the **impression of** having many threads that one cannot follow.' Discuss.

END