

M.A. FIRST LEVEL EXAMINATION

IT1005: CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN SHORT STORIES

January 2005 - Time allowed: 1 hour

Candidates should answer both Section A and Section B

Section A (worth 70%)

Answer **ONE** of the following questions

1. Discuss the differences and similarities between the following two short stories: Cesare Pavese's 'Il nome' and Eugenio Montale's 'La busacca'.

OR

2. How is the character of the mother portrayed as alienated and destined to be socially and existentially erased in Natalia Ginzburg's 'La madre'?

OR

3. In Dacia Maraini's 'La ragazza con la treccia', the narrator looks with a compassionate eye at the condition of women in pre-feminist Italy. Discuss.

Section B (worth 30%)

Answer **ALL** of the following questions

1. Write a brief comment (2-3 lines) on the underlined sections, numbered from (1) to (4), in the following passage taken from Italo Calvino's 'Marcovaldo al supermercato'.

2. What does the image of the crane represent in the concluding paragraph to 'Marcovaldo al supermercado'?