

M.A. FIRST LEVEL EXAMINATION

IT1008: THE ITALIAN SHORT STORY FROM THE 13TH TO THE 20TH CENTURY

May 2004- Time allowed: 1 hour

Candidates should answer **both** Sections A **and** B

Section A (70%)

Essay: Answer **one** of the following questions:

- a) Describe the presence of the author in the short stories you have read, and suggest reasons why particular authors have chosen to be more or less present? Answer the question with reference to three authors or collections, including at least one from before and one from after the 18th century.
- b) To what extent can the reader identify with the characters in the short stories you have read? Answer the question with reference to three authors or collections, including at least one from before and one from after the 18th century.
- c) Are short stories purely for entertainment or do they have some more serious purpose? Answer the question with reference to three authors or collections, including at least one from before and one from after the 18th century.

Section B (30%)

Briefly (4-5 lines) answer **all** of the following questions:

- a) What is an *exemplum*?
 - b) What is a 'frame story'?
 - c) Explain the statement 'l'opera d'arte sembrerà essersi fatta da sé'.
 - d) Describe one of the key concepts associated with 'pirandellismo'.
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