

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

Dutch 4TA5: Dutch Literature 1930–Present: Major Authors

COURSE CODE : DUTC4TA5

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 05–MAY–04

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

DUTCH4TA5 – MAJOR AUTHORS

Answer TWO questions. You may NOT answer a question on the writer who was the subject of your assessed essay. Each question carries equal weight.

QUESTION 1 – HUGO CLAUS

Either:

- a) Discuss *Het verdriet van België* as a portrait of the artist as a young man.

Or:

- b) Claus is a caricaturist rather than a realist. Discuss, with reference to *Het verdriet van België* and at least one of his plays.

QUESTION 2 – HELLA HAASSE

Either:

- a) Analyse and discuss Hella Haasse's preoccupation with the self in *Een nieuwer testament* and *Sleuteloog*.

Or:

- b) Consider the relationship between Hella Haasse's exploration of the boundary between fact and fiction and her experimentation with genre. Refer to at least two of her works in your answer.

QUESTION 3 – W.F. HERMANS

Either:

- a) "Het is of ik in een andere wereld leef, waar niemand mij geloven kan."
[W.F. Hermans, *De donkere kamer van Damocles*, 1958, p. 345]
Compare and discuss the theme of alienation and how this affects the main characters in *Nooit meer slapen* and *De donkere kamer van Damocles*.

Or:

- b) Consider the following critical reaction:
"Zo gezien is *De donkere kamer van Damocles* één van de meest nihilistische romans die de Nederlandse literatuur heeft voortgebracht." [Ton Anbeek, *Geschiedenis van de Nederlandse literatuur*, p. 196].
Discuss this critical statement and explore to what extent both *De donkere kamer van Damocles* and *Nooit meer slapen* can be considered 'nihilistic'.

END OF PAPER