

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 : 10–MAY–05

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

Answer TWO Questions. You may NOT answer a question on the author who was the subject of your Assessed Essay.

1. Hugo Claus

either

- a) *Het verdriet van België* is an historical canvas, a postmodern experiment, an autobiography and the portrait of a nation. Above all, however, it is a satire – and that is its main weakness. Discuss.

or

- b) The women characters in Hugo Claus' work tend to be two-dimensional characters, either mother figures or evil temptresses. Discuss, with reference to at least two titles.

2. Hella Haasse

either

- a) Consider the role of mystery and detection in Hella Haasse's fiction in relation to both plot and narration in *Een nieuwer testament*, *De wegen der verbeelding* and *Sleuteloog*.

or

- b) Give an account of the reception of *Sleuteloog* and at least one other novel you have studied and of the position of Hella Haasse in Dutch literature. What do you think are the factors that have a bearing on her position both today and in the past, and to what extent do you think they relate to the fact that Haasse is a woman writer?

3. W.F. Hermans

either

- a) Is Osewoudt deceiving himself in *De donkere kamer van Damocles*? Or is the narrator deceiving the reader? Discuss, with particular attention to how the reader ends up believing Osewoudt.

or

- b) Neither *De donkere kamer van Damocles* nor *Nooit meer slapen* has a positive main character. Compare and discuss in what way the central character of these two novels can be considered 'abnormal' and as cases for psychiatric treatment.

END OF PAPER