

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

*B.A.*

**French F3300: French Texts III**

**COURSE CODE : FREN3300**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**DATE : 20-MAY-04**

**TIME : 10.00**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

## THE DESIRE FOR COMMUNITY: LITERATURE AS ANTHROPOLOGY IN THE 18TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

Answer TWO questions, ONE from EACH section. Use a separate answer book for each question.

You may answer in English or in French, but no special credit will be given for answering in French rather than English.

Please note that AT LEAST ONE option paper MUST be written in English.

DO NOT BASE BOTH ANSWERS IN THIS PAPER, OR AN ANSWER IN THIS PAPER AND ONE IN ANOTHER OPTION PAPER, ON THE SAME TEXT OR ON SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME MATERIAL.

### SECTION A

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.

1. Analyse and discuss Rousseau's concept of perfectibility, as he defines and deploys it in the *Discours sur l'inégalité*.
2. 'Diderot devotes the *Entretien d'un père avec ses enfants* entirely to contractual relations of safekeeping in social life, and yet the work stops short of complete commitment to such relations.' Discuss.
3. '*Blessure, abaissement de soi, sacrifice*: these terms, incompatible with a triumphant subjectivity, define Leiris's autobiography.' Discuss *L'Age d'homme* in the light of this remark.
4. 'The *Cinq Etudes d'ethnologie* attest the inseparability of the goal of political emancipation from the ethnographer's unceasing efforts not to destroy the object of study.' Discuss ONE or MORE of Leiris's *Cinq Etudes* in the light of this comment.
5. 'For Lévi-Strauss, there are not two realms, the social and the psychical. Both are translations of a bundle of incommensurable symbolic systems.' Discuss, in the light of this statement, the *Introduction à l'œuvre de Marcel Mauss*.
6. 'Ils ne peuvent pas le regarder. [...] S'ils pouvaient faire ça, l'effort de le voir, ils seraient capables par ailleurs de faire des études, de se plier aux règles élémentaires de la vie en société' (Duras, *L'Amant*). Discuss the exploration of difference in *L'Amant* with reference to this statement about the two brothers.

TURN OVER

7. 'Ernesto a parlé du roi d'Israël.  
Nous sommes des héros, disait le roi.  
Tous les hommes sont des héros.  
C'est le fils de David, le roi de Jérusalem, dit Ernesto. [...]  
Ernesto hésite et dit: notre roi.'

(Duras, *La Pluie d'été*)

Discuss the importance, in *La Pluie d'été*, of the recovery of lost identity represented in the above extract.

## SECTION B

*PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.*

8. 'Acknowledging that ethnocentricity is ineradicable is the only way to attain a critical perspective on it and to accede to recognition of the other.' Discuss this remark with reference to TWO or MORE works studied for this course.
9. Compare and contrast the conceptions of fraternity, and the meanings assigned to it, in TWO or MORE works studied for this course.
10. 'Le changement social: objet d'horreur, de critique humaniste, d'acceptation résignée et de désir.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE works studied for this course.
11. Explain and discuss some of the functions of difference in ethnographic observation AND/OR subjective self-understanding, with reference to TWO or MORE works studied for this course.
12. 'The energy of literary anthropology derives not so much from an anti-humanist conviction as from a radically humbled, but even more urgent humanism.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE works studied in this course.

**END OF PAPER**