

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

*University of London*

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

*For the following qualifications :-*

B.A.

**French F3400: French Texts IV**

COURSE CODE : **FREN3400**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **14-MAY-02**

TIME : **14.30**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 hours**

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**TURN OVER**

## THE DESIRE FOR COMMUNITY: ETHNOPOETIC WRITING 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 writing in French rather than in 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. 'C'est du concours et de la combinaison ... de ces deux principes [antérieurs à la raison] ... que me paraissent découler toutes les règles du droit naturel ; règles que la raison est ensuite forcée de rétablir sur d'autres fondements, quand, par ses développements successifs, elle est venue à bout d'étouffer la nature' (Rousseau, *Discours de l'inégalité*, Préface). Explain this statement and discuss its implications for the argument of the discourse.
2. Discuss the effect on the reader of Rousseau's focus, in the 'Neuvième Promenade' of the *Rêveries du promeneur solitaire*, on fleeting acts of kindness between strangers.
3. 'Quoique le discours de Diderot fils soit le seul à être chargé de la nouvelle sensibilité républicaine, l'*Entretien* tout entier s'oriente vers un avenir utopique.' Discuss Diderot's *Entretien d'un Père avec ses enfants* in the light of this statement.
4. Discuss Leiris's poetic elaboration, in *L'Age d'homme*, of the self-other relationship as a theatrical space of possession.
5. 'If it is true that terms like *hau* and *mana*, expressions of the desire to control and complete the social, occur throughout human experience, then even while they hold the key to art and poetry and mythic invention, they condemn to failure any attempt to think the structure of reality.' Discuss Lévi-Strauss's *Introduction à l'Œuvre de Marcel Mauss* in the light of this observation.
6. 'Molieri's will to free himself from the public's fantasy is doomed.' Discuss Des Forêts's *Grands moments d'un chanteur* in the light of this remark.
7. 'Dans *L'Amant*, c'est l'amour sexuel transgressif qui figure l'espoir d'une société meilleure.' Discuss Duras's *L'Amant* in the light of this comment.
8. 'L'image dominante de ce roman d'apprentissage – échec de l'école, apprentissage de la lecture – , est un livre brûlé.' Discuss Duras's *La Pluie d'été* with reference to this observation.

CONTINUED

## SECTION B

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.

9. 'Nous sommes aujourd'hui poussés à envisager une forme enrichie et complexifiée d'auto-examen: un auto-examen qui nous amène à nous décentrer sans cesse, je veux dire, à nous dissocier autant que possible du faux centre de l'univers que nous occupons spontanément (égocentrisme, ethnocentrisme, idéologie-centrisme), et à nous marginaliser.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE works studied in this course.
10. 'La revendication de la liberté ne doit pas méconnaître la fonction anthropogène des règles et des interdits.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE works studied in this course.
11. Discuss, with reference to TWO or MORE works, the view that acknowledgement of one's limits, self-abasement or avowal of failure constitute the individual's capacity for friendship, love, fraternity.
12. 'Even while reference to myth is a backward move in relation to enlightened progress, and a perilous pretext for jubilation, it has the gift of criticising progress for the losses it entails, and of re-enchanting the world through art.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE of the following: *Discours de l'inégalité*; *L'Age d'homme*; *Les Grands Moments d'un chanteur*; *La Pluie d'été*.
13. Discuss, with reference to TWO or MORE works, the implications of the view that community is an object of desire.

**END OF PAPER**