

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

**B.A.**

**Spanish S401A: Romanticism To Naturalism: The 1820s To The 1890s**

**COURSE CODE : SPAN401A**

**UNIT VALUE : 1.00**

**DATE : 11-MAY-05**

**TIME : 14.30**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

**SPANISH S401A: Romanticism to Naturalism: The 1820s to the 1890s**

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions

*Essays may be written in either Spanish or English, but no extra credit will be given for answers in Spanish.*

*Candidates should not base more than ONE answer on a particular work.*

*Candidates should not base their answers on any text or texts used extensively in their course-work essays.*

1. 'Spanish Romantic poetry is not about beauty, inspiring landscapes, or the joys of love. Rather, it is to do with anguish, rebellion, frustration, and the state of Spain.' Discuss Espronceda's poetry in the light of this statement.
2. One critic has observed that *Don Alvaro o la fuerza del sino* is a play that is 'impregnado con el espíritu de España'. To what extent would you agree with this assertion?
3. 'El tiempo es el verdadero protagonista de *Los amantes de Teruel*, más fuerte que el amor y los amantes a quienes, al final, destruye.' Discuss this assessment of the play.
4. Bécquer's poetry has been described as 'más sugerencia que precisión, más alusión que realidad, más forma etérea que sólida'. How far do you consider this to be an adequate description of the *Rimas*?
5. To what extent do you think *Marianela* is a satisfactory title for Galdós' 1878 novel?
6. '*La Gaviota* is open to criticism for its primitive technique and its simplistic moral stance.' Discuss this assessment of Fernán Caballero's novel.
7. 'With *Tormento*, the borders between life and art, and reality and fiction, are deliberately confused in order to produce a novel that is critical of both popular literature and social attitudes in contemporary Spain.' Discuss.
8. '*La de Bringas* is a novel about individual moral degradation and national decline: failings that are presented with mockery and humour.' Discuss this assessment of the work.
9. 'Con *La Tribuna* Pardo Bazán nos da una visión del proletariado y de los problemas de la revolución y del republicanismo.' Discuss the extent to which you think that this is an adequate verdict on the novel.
10. 'Setting rather than plot is the dominant feature of *Los pazos de Ulloa*.' Assess the validity of this observation.

**TURN OVER**

**S401A**

11. 'La novedad de *La madre naturaleza* consiste precisamente en su carácter antirromántico; en el hecho de que reaccione contra el idealismo romántico.' How far do you agree with this assessment of the novel?
12. Discuss the importance of elements of *Costumbrismo*, OR Romanticism, OR Naturalism in ONE OR MORE of the novels studied on this course.
13. Compare the importance of visual impact in the work of ANY TWO of the following writers: Bécquer, Duque de Rivas, Espronceda, Hartzenbusch.
14. Discuss the treatment of rural landscape OR urban environment in AT LEAST ONE of the works studied.
15. 'Literary Realism tends to give an unfavourable view of society and social interaction.' Discuss with reference to AT LEAST ONE of the novels studied.

**END OF PAPER**