

**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 : 17-MAY-06**

**TIME : 10.00**

**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. 'The characteristic note of Espronceda's poetry is passion, and at times desperation.' Discuss.
2. 'In Romantic plays the theatre triumphs relentlessly over the dramatic development. All is outward effect.' Discuss **AT LEAST ONE** Romantic play in the light of these assertions.
3. Many contemporary critics attacked Romantic dramas for their 'immorality'. With reference to **AT LEAST ONE** Romantic play, discuss the possible grounds for such hostility.
4. 'En sus *Rimas* Bécquer expresa una historia íntima de amor y sufrimiento en una forma desnuda de artificio, y de una sobria y directa belleza.' Is this an adequate description of the thematic content and the poetic style of the *Rimas*?
5. Fernán Caballero observed: 'No pretendo escribir novelas, sino cuadros de costumbres, retratos, acompañados de reflexiones y descripciones.' To what extent can these comments be applied to *La gaviota*?
6. 'In *Marianela* there is a striking contrast between the sentimental, melancholy tone of the work and its main theme: the cold, inevitable triumph of science and progress.' How far do you agree with this assessment of the novel?
7. Examine the connection between love, life, and literature that is developed in *Tormento*.
8. Discuss the importance of the social and political themes in *La Tribuna*.
9. Examine the importance of the priest, Julián, to the narrative development of *Los pazos de Ulloa*.
10. 'Setting rather than plot is the dominant feature of *La madre naturaleza*.' To what extent do you agree with this observation?

**TURN OVER**

**S401A**

11. 'In *La barraca* Blasco Ibáñez paints a depressing picture of a society in which ignorance, prejudice and injustice prevail.' Discuss the validity of this observation.
12. 'The landscape, the setting are the dominant features of *Cañas y barro*.' To what extent do you agree with this assessment of Blasco's novel?
13. 'Romantic writing exhibits emotional intensity, extremes of joy or despair, and artistic extravagance.' Discuss with reference to the work of ONE OR MORE of the following: Espronceda, Duque de Rivas, Hartzenbusch.
14. Discuss the validity of the terms 'Realism' AND/OR 'Naturalism' with reference to ONE OR MORE of the novels studied on the course.
15. Compare the ways in which women are portrayed in the work of AT LEAST TWO nineteenth-century writers.
16. Compare the importance of visual impact in the writing of ANY TWO of the following authors: Bécquer, Duque de Rivas, Espronceda, Hartzenbusch.
17. Discuss the treatment of rural landscape OR urban environment in AT LEAST ONE of the works studied.

**END OF PAPER**